

PNC members issue appeal

AMMAN (R) — Palestine National Council (PNC) members based in Jordan appealed Monday for international pressure on Israel to cancel expulsion orders on 12 Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. A memorandum signed by 33 members of the PNC named 12 Palestinians it said were in Israeli jails awaiting expulsion from the occupied territories. "We request you to intervene with the Israeli authorities to stop the execution of the unfair orders of (expulsion) issued against these patriots," said the note circulated to embassies here, including those of the U.N. Security Council's five permanent members. "We urge you to mobilise world opinion to pressure Israel to cancel the (expulsion) policy which contravenes all international and humanitarian conventions and laws," it said. The memorandum said Israel had implemented 50 out of 62 expulsion orders issued since the start of the Palestinian uprising in December 1987.

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King in Brunei on two-day visit

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein arrived here Monday for a two-day private visit.

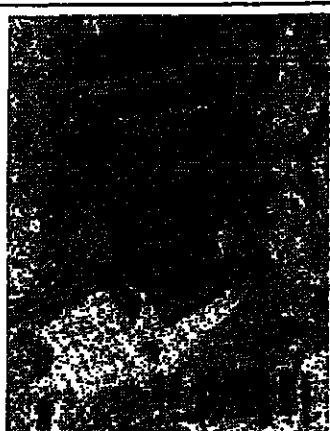
Receiving His Majesty upon his arrival was Sultan Hassan Al Bolkhiah, the Sultan of Brunei, and ministers and high ranking officials. King Hussein left the

Japanese capital, Tokyo, Monday afternoon where he was seen off by Crown Prince of Japan Narohito, high-ranking Japanese officials as well as the Jordanian ambassador in Tokyo.

Accompanying King Hussein on his visit was Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.



HM King Hussein



Sultan Hassan Al Bolkhiah

Iraqi leader, Rifai discuss bilateral ties, current Arab issues

BAGHDAD (J.T.) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein received here Monday Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and reviewed with him relations between Jordan and Iraq and current Arab affairs.

Rifai conveyed to the president greetings from His Majesty King Hussein and was asked to convey the president's greetings to the monarch.

The meeting was attended by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan. Upon his arrival in Baghdad

earlier, Rifai said he was carrying a message to the president from King Hussein and that he would discuss with Ramadan a number of issues already discussed at earlier meetings.

Rifai returned to Amman later Monday and was received at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and Cabinet ministers as well as Iraq's Ambassador to Jordan Ghafel Jassem Hussein.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai is received by Cabinet members upon his return from Baghdad after a working visit Monday (Petra photo)

Kuwait plans intense drive to convene Riyadh summit

By Rakan Al Majali
Special to the Jordan Times

KUWAIT — Kuwait will soon launch intensive contacts to convene an Arab summit meeting in Riyadh since it believes that the time has come for all-out pan-Arab efforts to deal with current issues of concern to the Arab World, Kuwait Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah said here Monday.

A summit is essential now to unify Arab positions in the face of the common challenges and to deal with all developments. Sheikh Saad said in an interview with the Jordan Times and Al Ra'i.

The Kuwaiti leader paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's endeavours in bolstering pan-Arab solidarity and said

Kuwait takes pride in the King's national and honourable stand vis-a-vis Arab affairs in general and matters related to Kuwait in particular.

Kuwaitis feel proud of the King's support for their country during Iran's shelling of Kuwaiti territory and when Kuwait was exposed to security problems. Sheikh Saad added. He said that King Hussein had placed Jordan's potentials at Kuwait's disposal during all these events and in the face of external threats.

A visit to Kuwait by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak this week was successful and fruitful, Sheikh Saad said.

Mubarak held intensive talks with Kuwaiti leaders and paved the way for a greater measure of Egyptian-Kuwaiti cooperation, the crown prince added. Sheikh Saad said Kuwait

welcomes the creation of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) since the country supports all unionist plans and all measures intended to bolster inter-Arab cooperation.

Sheikh Saad referred to the situation in the Gulf and said his country had exerted strenuous efforts to stop the conflict between Iran and Iraq and had urged the U.N. secretary general to maintain his endeavours to bring about a lasting settlement between the two countries.

Sheikh Saad described his recent visit to Iraq as important and fruitful. The visit, he said, offered a chance for discussion on issues of mutual interest.

Sheikh Saad noted that Kuwait had hosted a meeting of an Arab League mediation committee to help bring about



Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah settlement to the civil strife in Lebanon and would continue endeavours in that respect. He described the Kuwait meeting, which was attended by heads of religious and political parties in Lebanon, as positive and said it would contribute to the solution of the problem. Sheikh Saad said that his country continues to support the Palestinian uprising and would continue to work towards achieving just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Shevardnadze sees closer Soviet-Iranian ties

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said Monday that his visit to Iran signalled closer relations between the two countries despite their "ideological differences," the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

Shevardnadze made the remarks at a meeting with Iranian President Ali Khamenei, who asked him to pressure Iraq to change its position in the Gulf war peace talks.

The Soviet official was scheduled to leave Tehran for Moscow later Monday, ending a 10-day Middle East tour designed to expand the Soviet role in the region.

The IRNA report, monitored in Nicosia, did not quote Shevardnadze as enumerating the differences. But the official atheism of the Soviet Union is anathema to Iran.

"In our opinion, Iran enjoys high international prestige," IRNA quoted the Soviet official as saying, adding that "we have come to the conclusion that it is a must to acknowledge others' beliefs and respect them."

He also said the Soviets would push for progress in the Iran-Iraq peace talks, stalled since the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Gulf war.

The Soviet leader reiterated the call he made in Baghdad for the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Gulf.

Tehran Radio quoted Shevardnadze as telling Khamenei he had held "lengthy talks with the Iraqis in which they declared their determination for progress in peace talks."

Shevardnadze discussed Gulf peace with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Friday. He said then that Moscow would do its best to move the stalled peace talks forward.

With Iran embroiled in a diplomatic row with the West over death threats to British author Salman Rushdie, the Soviet Union is in a unique position to influence the stalled peace talks.

On Sunday, spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini endorsed closer relations with Moscow during an unprecedented meeting with the Soviet minister.

Shevardnadze gave Khomeini a reply from Mikhail Gorbachev to a message the ayatollah sent the Soviet leader last month which described communism a museum-piece and invited Kremlin leaders to study Islam.

Shevardnadze said in Baghdad Saturday the Soviet Union was ready to withdraw its own forces from the Gulf immediately if the United States did the same.

The Soviet minister said Afghanistan, from where the Soviet Union withdrew its forces

this month after more than nine years, should become "a neutral, non-aligned and independent" country.

Khomeini, calling for "a non-aligned, independent and popular" government in Kabul, said the Afghan people should determine their own destiny without pressure and bloodshed.

IRNA had quoted a leader of Iranian-backed Afghan rebels as saying Shevardnadze had asked to meet them in Tehran. But an official at the Soviet embassy in Tehran told Reuters no such meeting was planned.

The Soviet minister's 10-day trip to Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and Iran represented Moscow's most intensive diplomatic foray into the region in years.

Shevardnadze met Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens in Cairo in an attempt to persuade Israel to accept an international Arab-Israeli peace conference.

Soviets demonstrate against Rushdie threat

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Shouting "Shame on Khomeini, shame on Islam," Soviet activists and journalists demonstrated Monday at the Iranian embassy to demand that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini cancel his death threat against British author Salman Rushdie.

About 15 banner-waving demonstrators criticised the Soviet government and intellectual elite for failing to condemn the Iranian leader.

The Kremlin has yet to comment on Rushdie's book "The Satanic Verses" or Khomeini's death threat against the author. Soviet media have published reports from abroad about the controversy, but have not commented editorially.

Iran's parliament planned to vote Tuesday on breaking di-

plomatic relations with Britain over the controversial novel by Rushdie, whose publisher reportedly was considering labelling unsold copies of the book with an apology to defuse Muslim uproar.

Many Muslims consider "The Satanic Verses" blasphemous to Islam, and sometimes-violent demonstrations have erupted around the world in reaction to it. In the latest protests, two people were killed and seven wounded in bomb blasts in India and Pakistan.

Thousands of Muslims demonstrated in Lebanon and Iran Sunday in support of Khomeini's death threat against Rushdie and the book's publisher.

One death was reported Monday by an explosion as police clashed with demonstrators in

Srinagar, India, and a guard was killed Sunday when a bomb detonated at a British library in Karachi, Pakistan. Seven people were wounded in the Indian blast.

France and Britain took the same tough stance over the affair Monday as British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher thanked her European allies for their "splendid support."

France warned extremists in its large Muslim community that anyone publicly threatening the life of Rushdie would be prosecuted.

Speaking at the end of his one-day summit with Thatcher, President Francois Mitterrand said Iranian death threats against Rushdie had created a totally irrational situation.

French Premier Michel Rocard

said Monday any new demonstrations urging violence against Rushdie would lead to criminal charges. Some 1,000 people marched Sunday in Paris to protest distribution of "The Satanic Verses."

Rocard noted that "a small minority of participants" Sunday called for violence and murder in slogans or banner.

"These are actions that our country cannot tolerate in any circumstance," he said. "As a result, any new appeal to violence or murder, in whatever form, will lead to immediate prosecution."

Also Monday, Syria and Brunei announced they had banned "The Satanic Verses," and Syria cut all contacts with British publisher. The book previously had been banned by a number of Muslim countries.

Attas message to King Hussein welcomes ACC

Regent endorses creation of Jordan-S. Yemen committee

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday expressed his support for the creation of a Joint Jordanian-South Yemen Higher Committee to discuss and implement means of promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields.

The Regent was speaking at a meeting held at the Royal Court with visiting South Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Al Dali, who handed the Regent a message addressed to His Majesty King Hussein from South Yemeni head of state Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas.

The message voiced South Yemen's congratulations to the Kingdom on the proclamation of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC).

Attas described the ACC as a constructive step towards enhancing Arab solidarity and boosting the Arab nation's power.

The Regent underlined the need for Arab states to step up coordination to enable them to deal with challenges and with a view to providing benefits for all Arab people.

The audience was in the presence of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

At a meeting here Sunday between Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and the South Yemeni minister agreement was reached on the creation of a higher committee that can supervise the implementation of joint ventures and cooperation in tourism, education, trade and economic fields.

Khasawneh meets Dali

Information Minister Hani Khasawneh met with Dali Monday and voiced Jordan's readiness

to provide South Yemen with all possible help in the field of information and offer training for South Yemeni personnel in radio, television and other services.

Dali expressed his country's desire to benefit from Jordan's experience and heard an outline from Khasawneh on the Kingdom's information policies.

Jordan, working under the directives of King Hussein, is oriented towards providing all possible help to bolster cooperation and coordination with all Arab states, Khasawneh said.

He reviewed inter-Arab cooperation in the fields of information and culture and said the Kingdom's information policies aim to serve Arab causes in general and the Palestine cause in particular.

Dali said his country was looking forward to further cooperation between Jordan and South Yemen.

He expressed hope that an expected visit to Aden by Prime Minister Rifai would pave the ground for such cooperation.

The meeting was in the presence of the ministry of information's secretary-general and the directors-general of the radio and television corporation and the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Thouragun Al Hindawi also conferred with Dali and reviewed the education system in the two countries and spheres of cooperation in the

field of general education and vocational and higher education. Hindawi expressed Jordan's readiness to place its capabilities and expertise in the field of education at the disposal of South Yemen.

Dali later held a meeting with Qasem. He expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the talks he held with Jordanian officials and hoped that this would lead to

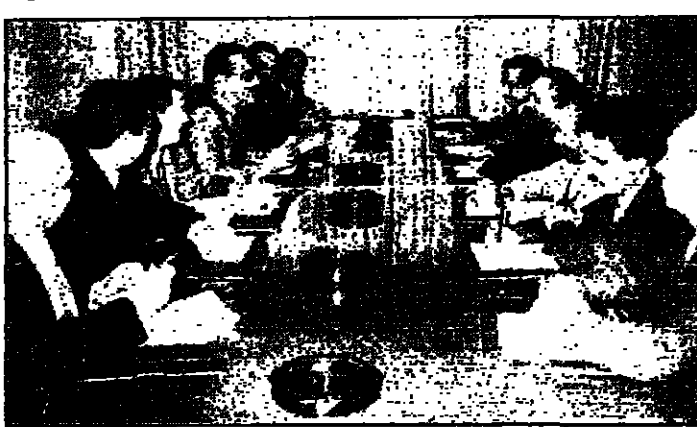
practical steps towards bolstering bilateral relations.

Qasem and Dali to form a joint ministerial level committee to clear and develop bilateral relations. They also agreed to continue consultations and to arrange for future visits by South Yemeni technical delegations to Jordan.

Dali is due to leave Amman Tuesday.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday confers with South Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Al Dali in a meeting attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem (photo above) and (below) Information Minister Hani Khasawneh and a delegation representing the press and information media in Jordan meet Dali and a delegation accompanying him (Petra photos)



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday presents the Jordanian Independence Medal of the First Order to Sharifa Fatima, president of the Umm Al Hussein Orphanage (Petra photo)

Regent reviews orphanage services

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday visited the Maharaat (orphanage) of Um Al Hussein at Marka and reviewed its services.

The Regent met with the orphanage's board and was briefed on the institution's programmes.

The Regent conferred on Sharifa Fatima, the orphanage's president, the Jordanian Independence Medal of the First Order in recognition of her valuable services to the orphanage.

The Regent also visited Al Mahatta Secondary School for Girls and reviewed its activities.

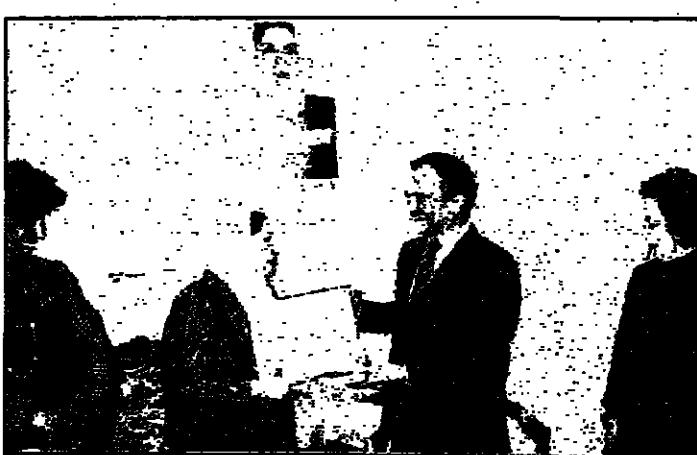
The visit was as a follow-up of steps taken in the course of implementing the resolutions of the First National Educational Con-

ference held here in 1987.

The students at the Mahatta school will be moved to a new building in October, a Ministry of Education official said. He added that, in the course of implementing the conference resolutions, a total of seven schools were being built in Marka.

The conference called for the construction of school buildings and to dispose of rented buildings which proved inappropriate for comprehensive and useful training.

Also Monday the Regent met at his office with the secretary general of the International Tae Kwon Do Federation and his aide. He reviewed with them a number of questions pertaining to the federation's activities.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday presents the Jordanian Independence Medal of the First Order to Sharifa Fatima, president of the Umm Al Hussein Orphanage (Petra photo)

Waldegrave due in Amman next week

By Rania Atalla with agency dispatches

AMMAN — British Foreign Office Junior Minister William Waldegrave is expected to visit Amman March 6-9 as part of a nine-day visit to the Middle East.

During his stay in Amman, Waldegrave will hold talks with Jordanian officials to discuss the Kingdom's position vis-a-vis the peace process in the region. The talks are also expected to tackle Jordan's evaluation of international efforts towards peace in the area, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Waldegrave's visit comes in the context of recent European peace efforts aimed at finding a settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Britain was instrumental in bringing about a European Community (EC) endorsement of the idea of an international peace conference attended by all parties involved in the conflict. Earlier this month, Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez said the EC had adopted a new attitude towards the Middle East peace process, describing the new policy as "a decision to move from a level of declaration to a level of active involvement."

More specifically, Europe recently made efforts to influence Israel into accepting the principle of withdrawing from the occupied territories and committing itself to U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

In Tel Aviv, a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Sunday said the prime minister had no plans to meet with Waldegrave. The British minister angered Israeli leaders last year when he compared the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) with the Jewish underground groups which operated during the British rule of Palestine.

Following a recent meeting in Tunis with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, Waldegrave sharply criticised Israel's refusal to negotiate with the PLO.

Army seals off West Bank, Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

The Israeli army ordered the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip sealed off Monday night to prevent Palestinian protests from spreading to Israel during local elections Tuesday.

The 22-hour closure, starting at midnight, follows the stabbing of an Israeli border policeman and the shooting by soldiers of at least 17 Palestinian protesters.

Military officials said the order would prevent the 1.7 million Palestinians of the occupied territories from entering or leaving Israel.

Underground leaders of the 14-month-old uprising are calling a general strike for election day. The leaders have vowed to halt transport in Arab Jerusalem and have urged its 140,000 residents to boycott the polls.

In the West Bank, a paramilitary border policeman was stabbed while patrolling in Al Bireh market, an army spokesman said. He was taken to hospital with light to moderate injuries.

In the chase after the assailant, a border policeman shot, wounded and captured the man. The army imposed a curfew

on the area," the spokesman said.

Palestinians said troops shot and wounded 16 other protesters in Halhoul in the West Bank and in Khan Younis and Jabalya and Sha'ti refugee camps in Gaza.

In Nablus in the West Bank, troops sealed an alley in the market where a soldier was killed Friday by a block dropped from a three-storey building.

Soldiers blocked off the lane with concrete-filled barrels after demolishing the top floor of the building Sunday, causing damage to neighbouring apartments, residents said.

Sources said the army was still holding 40 of an estimated 150 Palestinians rounded up after the soldier was killed.

An anonymous caller claiming to represent a hitherto unknown group, the Palestinian Arab Army, telephoned a news agency in Jerusalem to claim responsibility for kidnapping an Israeli soldier who went missing 10 days ago.

The caller promised to produce a video film of paratrooper Avi Sasportas and a list of demands within 48 hours.

مكتبة من الكتب

Egypt hopes Taba deal leads to peace

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt's foreign minister praised Israel Monday for surrendering a disputed border enclave to Egypt, saying he hopes the episode can help push peace efforts in the Middle East.

Esmat Abdul Meguid spoke to reporters 12 hours after Egyptian, Israeli and American officials signed several agreements Sunday night to end by March 15 Israel's 15-year occupation of Taba, a one-square-kilometre beach resort on the Gulf of Aqaba.

"Egypt's resumption of sovereignty over Taba is a victory for peace and supports the possibilities of the peace process," Abdul Meguid said. "It is proof that if serious determination and good will is available, disputes can be resolved by peaceful ways."

One agreement signed at Taba's Aviya-Sonesta beach hotel stipulated that the Egyptians pay compensation of \$37 million to the hotel's Israeli owner. Another set a price of \$1.15 million for a nearby holiday village of beach cabanas and a cafeteria.

The agreements give all tourists, including Israelis, 14 days' access without visas from Israel to Taba and southern Sinai on display of passports but without a visa.

They also put the border be-

tween Egypt and Israel back to its position prior to the 1967 war. Taba became an irritant in Egyptian-Israeli relations in 1982 when, during its withdrawal from the Sinai, Israel refused to give up the tiny patch of beach. After years of fruitless negotiation, the two sides decided in 1986 to let international arbitrators decide Taba's fate.

On Sept. 29, 1988, the arbitration committee ruled that Taba be returned to Egypt but left open the fate of the beachfront. Except for the tourist facilities there, the enclave includes virtually nothing but barren rock and sand hills.

After obtaining easy access for its tourists, Israel finally signed Sunday's series of agreements that will put Taba back in Egyptian hands by noon March 15.

"Egypt hopes that completion of the Israeli withdrawal becomes the start of a new stage during which we can expand the peace process in the area," Abdul Meguid said.

At the 40-minute signing ceremony, Egyptian, Israeli and American delegates expressed similar hopes that future disputes between Israel and the Arabs be solved through negotiations.

Egyptian Tourism Minister Fuad Sultan, who signed parts of the agreement package for Egypt, said his government plans further tourist development of



Esmat Abdul Meguid

Taba's bay, bordered by sandy beaches dotted by palm trees.

In the past, most occupants of the hotel, built in the early 1980s, have been Israelis, but Egyptian officials have said they plan campaigns to lure Egyptian tourists as well.

Because of the sensitivity of what it considered Egyptian land under foreign occupation, the government made Taba off-limits to Egyptians during much of the seven-year squabble over the area.

Israel Radio quoted Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as saying he was sad to see Israel "lose" Taba.

The Taba agreement was approved by Israel's decision-making 10-member inner cabinet Sunday by a vote of eight to one with one abstention.



Michel Aoun

staged to support their governor, Edmond Naim, in a dispute with one of the two rival governments.

Bank sources said at least 800 employees returned to work after Aoun failed to file legal charges against Naim.

Aoun has accused Naim of misusing his authority and failing to control financial manipulation.

Naim has been financing Aoun's government as well as the rival one since the two started competing for power in September after parliament failed to elect a new president.

Army opens central Beirut crossing

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese army troops opened a seafront route linking the two halves of central Beirut Monday, five years after it was shut by civil war violence.

Motorists ventured through the crossing point early in the morning after army engineers — acting under an agreement between the country's rival civil and military governments — cleared it of land mines and the bushes which had grown since it last was used.

Local media hailed the opening of the port road as a step towards ending Lebanon's constitutional crisis.

Until now, Beirut residents wishing to move between the western and eastern sides of the 10-kilometre long green line had to use the Museum Crossing inland from the old city centre district.

The battlefront emerged at the start of the civil war in 1975 and its crossings have been at the mercy of rival militias. The port crossing was closed in 1984.

The Lebanese Forces (LF), a hardline rightist militia withdrew from a nearby dock at the official Beirut port last week.

Troops loyal to army commander

Major General Michel Aoun, who heads a mainly Christian military government in east Beirut, battled the LF in Christian areas earlier in the month.

Aoun's soldiers now guard the eastern ends of the port and museum crossings, while troops loyal to the rival civilian government man the western ends.

The two governments have been vying for power since parliament failed to elect a new president in September, but the two cabinets agreed to open the port crossing.

Although several cars drove through the port crossing when it opened, by mid-morning there was a queue of vehicles waiting while bulldozers removed barricades and debris.

An army officer at the crossing told Reuters, the army hoped the route would be completely open in a few hours.

"The crossing is officially open, but there are some practical and technical steps to be taken first," he said.

Central bank strike ends

Central Bank employees Monday ended a two-day strike they

Mahdi threatens to quit

KHARTOUM (R) — Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi told parliament Monday he would step down next Sunday unless the armed forces gave him a free hand to form a new government and work for peace in south Sudan.

Mahdi made the threat on the day a deadline given him by Sudan's officer corps to introduce reforms expires. The officers are exasperated by the protracted war with southern rebels and the collapse of a peace plan at the end of last year.

Mahdi told parliament: "War is not the objective. The objective is peace and peace will be easier to achieve if we rally around it at home. This requires proceedings, contacts, agreements and to widen the base of the government."

"If I am wanted to achieve this within the trust of the constituent assembly (parliament), then I expect a positive response from the

military and trade unions that will satisfy me within the next few days."

He asked Sudan's trade unions to promise not to stage fresh strikes as long as the five-year-old war against the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) continued in the south.

The prime minister said he wanted assurances that the armed forces would abide by the constitution and restrict discussions with the civilian government to the National Defence Council, the country's highest authority on questions of national security.

Army commanders, who say they lack the equipment needed to defeat the southern rebels,

gave the ultimatum to Mahdi and head of state Ahmad Ali Al Mirghani last Monday.

They complained that government backing for the 60,000-man army was insufficient and blamed the coalition government's foreign policy for what they called a virtual halt in foreign military aid.

Mahdi said that if he stepped down his Umma Party, the biggest single bloc in the 301-seat house, would nominate his successor.

Diplomats said at least half of the 150 officers who met to draft the ultimatum wanted an immediate military takeover but were restrained by superior officers.

"You cannot entirely rule out the possibility of a coup," one diplomat said. "And even if the crisis is contained, the seed of a military takeover is now in the soil."

"If the generals decide to accept one of Mahdi's traditional compromises, the middle-ranking

and junior officers may decide to act independently," a senior Arab diplomat said.

Thousands of troops in the Khartoum area were on combat alert Sunday night, but the Sudanese capital was quiet.

Only a handful of soldiers were on guard duty outside the military headquarters in central Khartoum. There were no signs of increased security at the prime minister's office a short distance away.

The military ultimatum gave Mahdi the choice of either drafting a peace plan to end the war or providing the 60,000-strong army with enough arms and supplies to fight the better-equipped rebels.

Information Minister Beshir Omar said Saturday that a ministerial committee had been formed to draft a peace plan.

The current governing coalition, only four weeks old, is formed by Mahdi's Umma Party and the militant National Islamic

Front. Sudan's second largest party, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), quit the ruling coalition two months' ago in protest at parliament's rejection of a peace pact it reached with the rebels last November.

Diplomats said the Democratic Unionists had so far rejected government overtures to rejoin the coalition, insisting that it must first be dissolved.

The National Islamic Front is also resisting the idea of all-party national unity government, saying it would not work in practice.

After issuing the ultimatum last Monday, a military spokesman said he would not characterise it as a coup threat.

The military issued the deadline after Defence Minister Abdul Meguid Khalil resigned in protest over the government's refusal to endorse the peace agreement proposed last November.

Israelis tighten screws on Gazans

EREZ CHECKPOINT, occupied Gaza Strip (R) — The Israeli army has taken steps to stop Palestinians involved in uprising from leaving the Gaza Strip to work in Israel, tightening the economic screws on the anti-occupation revolt.

It ordered drivers to pay \$6 for grey stickers showing they had paid their taxes and had not taken part in protests.

"It's an important step to collect taxes and show we are in control. We are telling residents that leaving Gaza will be a privilege," Michael Weisel, spokesman for the Gaza "civil administration," told Reuters Sunday.

The army said the move was designed to put economic pressure on the impoverished Gaza Strip, where 650,000 residents rely largely on income from menial jobs in Israel. Up to 60,000 Gazans stream into Israel daily for work.

Weisel said all but about 500 of Gaza's 24,000 vehicles would be given the stickers letting them pass through two military checkpoints.

"We know who we are looking for," he said. "We just have to wait here for them to show up." Gazans were already required to pay special fees for registration and road safety tests.

Sources said the decision to wage economic warfare followed a defence ministry review of the impact of a deepening economic crisis in Gaza and the West Bank. The standard of living of the 1.7 million Palestinians in the

occupied territories has dropped by 40 per cent since the start of the revolt in December 1987, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said last week.

Soldiers also attached coded magnetic strips to windscreens and rear windows, which Weisel said would be scanned at the two border checkpoints. Passage would be approved or denied on the basis of up-to-date computerised tax and "security" records.

"We will reconsider those who do not pass now. In cases where they have to pay taxes it will be easy, but for people involved in violence the chances for getting the permit will not be as good," Weisel said.

She said the army had so far not discussed barring individual workers, as distinct from car owners.

On the first day of the operation Sunday, troops diverted cars from Gaza's Jabalya refugee camp to special queues, where drivers had to present identity cards, driver's licences and registration papers for inspection.

"It's not right. They keep making us pay for things all the time," protested Mohammed Asad, a construction worker. The red, brown and grey stickers pasted to his windscreen attested to Israel's repeated levies on Palestinians in Gaza.

"It killed the day," said Abdul Bassam Abu Jurad, who ferries workers to jobs in southern Israel. "I got here at 7:30 and did not leave till noon. Now there is no chance to work."

Mubarak ends visit to Kuwait

KUWAIT (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak left for Cairo Monday after two days of talks here on Middle East issues and possible Kuwaiti financing for Egyptian development projects like deepening the Suez Canal.

Mubarak arrived in Kuwait Sunday on his way back the Tokyo funeral of Emperor Hirohito.

On the Arab-Israeli peace process, a senior Egyptian official said Mubarak had declined an offer to travel to Israel.

"President Mubarak has changed his mind after (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir refused to pay any price for the visit by saying Israel will not attend an international peace conference on the Middle East," Mandoob Al Beltagi, head of the Egyptian Information Department, was quoted as telling Kuwaiti newspapers.

"Israel's rejection of peace has prompted the president to change his mind. He will not visit Israel. If such a visit will not realise just and durable peace in the region," Beltagi said.

Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah met with Mubarak for a working dinner Sunday and talks continued Monday.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Algeria to implement new constitution

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria's National Assembly will hold a special session early next month to implement the country's new constitution authorising independent political groups, the official daily Al Moudjahid said Sunday. The constitution requires a new legal framework and regulations will be debated by the assembly, the majority of whose members represent the ruling National Liberation Front (NLF). Adopted by 73 per cent of the voters in a referendum Thursday, the new constitution will end over a quarter of a century of dogmatic one-party socialism in Algeria. Several new parties have already emerged covering a wide spread of political views. Political sources said Islamic fundamentalists were also forming organisations.

UNIMOG starts night patrols

NICOSIA (R) — U.N. observers of the Iran-Iraq ceasefire have started night patrols to improve monitoring of the Gulf war fronts, Tehran Radio reported Sunday. It said General Slavko Jovic, commander of the U.N. force, ordered the first patrol on the southern fronts Saturday night. Jovic arrived in Iran's southwestern Khuzestan province Saturday to inspect frontline posts of the U.N. Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG), said the radio. UNIMOG, comprised of 409 unarmed officers from 26 countries helped by about 150 civilian staff, monitors the ceasefire which went into effect between Iran and Iraq last Aug. 20. No major ceasefire violations have been reported, but the two countries' forces are only metres apart in some positions.

Two Britons jailed for murder in S. Arabia

LONDON (R) — A British engineer and his wife have been jailed in Saudi Arabia for the murder of an Irish nurse, according to the Foreign Office. Peter Hall was jailed for 10 years and his Irish-born wife Monica was given an eight-year sentence, a Foreign Office spokesman said. The sentences were confirmed Saturday by Saudi authorities. The couple have been in jail since the murder almost three years ago of Helen Feeney, director of nursing at a maternity hospital in Taif. The London Sunday Times reported that more than £20,000 (\$35,000) was missing from Feeney's flat after the murder. The couple went on trial a year ago and could have faced the death penalty. Appeals by Feeney's family are believed to have helped to obtain the lighter sentences.

Israel indicts 'PLO spy'

TEL AVIV (AP) — A Soviet-born Israeli who allegedly offered to sell military secrets to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for \$1.5 million was indicted before a Tel Aviv court Sunday, Israeli radio reported. The indictment accused Benjamin Shinkman, 35, of handing over to PLO officials in Athens secret information on the Israeli army during three trips to Greece in 1988, Israeli Radio reported. He also offered to fly to PLO headquarters in Tunis and hold a press conference where he would answer questions on Israel's military capabilities and publicly tear up his Israeli passport, the radio said. Shinkman demanded \$1.5 million from the PLO in return for his actions. He was never paid and police arrested him at Ben-Gurion airport when he returned to Israel from Athens. The radio said Shinkman moved to Israel from the Soviet Union in 1978 and served in the army for 4 months in 1985. Details of the information disclosed by Shinkman and his role in the military have been banned from publication.

Iran accused of executing 12,000

BAGHDAD (R) — Iran's main opposition group, the Mujahadeen-e-Khalq, accused the Iranian government Monday of executing 12,000 political prisoners since last August's Gulf war ceasefire. The Baghdad-based group said it had sent to the United Nations the names of 1,634 of its activists and supporters who were among those executed. The movement told Reuters by telex that it had called on U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to send an international mission to examine conditions in Iranian jails. "It is simply clear that the (Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeini regime survives solely on crisis-mongering, repression and export of terror to different parts of the world," it said. It said the Tehran government "does not belong to the international community and must be expelled from all international forums."

Lucrative militia business under army threat in Lebanon

By Zina Hennyady
Reuters

BEIRUT — Lebanon's army chief, fresh from a week of battles with the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, has launched an offensive to choke off the militia's lucrative tax rackets.

The militiamen bleed illegal taxes from shops, petrol stations, cinemas, restaurants, bars and even the few beach and ski resorts to survive the civil war.

Any visitor to Beirut has to pay the LF 700 Lebanese pounds (\$1.50) to enter the parts of the capital's Christian sector which it controls. Expatriate residents pay more.

But army commander Michel Aoun has given notice he intends to put a stop to the taxes which have paid for militia guns and lined militiamen's

pockets. "They were not satisfied with raising the petrol tax. They increased taxes on chalets, free enterprise, real estate, water — they even taxed breathing," Major-General Aoun told Beirut's Al Diyar newspaper.

Troops under Aoun, who heads one of Lebanon's two rival governments, battled for a week with LF fighters in east Beirut this month. About 60 people were killed in the fighting.

Of all Lebanon's militias, the LF has established the most elaborate mini-state outside the control of the government with its network of social, educational, medical and public services.

"You were like a surgeon forced to extract a malignant growth threatening the body of Lebanon," Aoun told his

troops at the end of the fighting nine days ago.

He said the LF took 200 million Lebanese pounds (\$400,000) in taxes each day from the 1.3 million residents of the Christian enclave to pay for its operations.

He urged citizens to refuse to pay militia taxes and the LF, as part of a church-mediated peace settlement, handed over one of its most lucrative illegal enterprises — a dock at Beirut port.

Troops took control of the Fifth Basin, the capital's busiest dock, Thursday night. The LF was making an estimated \$200,000 a month from taxing goods through the basin, which it seized in 1976.

Economists said Lebanon's customs revenue fell by at least 50 per cent in the three years from 1976 as the war-blighted government lost control over

its airport, ports and frontiers.

Militias ended up running seven illegal ports dotted along the coast. Lebanon's lucrative hashish crop was smuggled through many of them, while guns and ammunition were imported.

Acting Premier Salim Hoss, an economist who heads Lebanon's civilian cabinet, has welcomed Aoun's crackdown and all other moves to extend legitimate government authority.

But both governments now face the arduous task of trying to wipe out the semi-autonomous rule of a string of other militias.

In the Shouf mountains, the Druze heartland southeast of Beirut, the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia has set up its own canton and displayed an administrative flair similar to the LF's.

The PSP has taken over virtually all public services and also operates two illegal ports — one seized from the government and the other built by the militia during the war.

The Popular Liberation Army (PLA), the Shi'ite Amal and the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militias share control of South Lebanon and each has its own tax system.

In northern Lebanon, former President Suleiman Franjieh's Marada militia runs the port of Salata, which it promised last week to turn over to the government.

It also taxes Lebanon's largest cement factory.

Many analysts doubt militiamen will give up their ports and self-rule without a fight, especially as much of their income pays for their wages;

weapons, uniforms and hospital charges.

Widows and wives of militiamen killed in action even receive compensation.

But despite their sectarian differences, many tax-paying Lebanese civilians said they would prefer seeing their money go to the government treasury rather than to the militias.

"Although I am an LF loyalist, there is no doubt in my mind that I would rather pay taxes to the government," said Nazih, a merchant who declined to give his last name.

"If we want a strong country and army we have to pay our dues."

Ali Shkeir, a resident of west Beirut, agreed. "I hope I'll see the day when the government spreads its authority to this area, even if it does mean more legal taxes," he said.

DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 75111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
17:00 Educational programme
17:30 Religious programme
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Programme on world news
18:20 Programme on children
19:10 Agricultural programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
22:30 Arabic programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 La Belle Anglaise
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Who's the Boss
21:10 The Tin Flute
22:00 News in English
22:30 Hunter

PRAYER TIMES

04:44 Fajr
06:01 (Sunrise) Dhuha
11:48 Dhuhur
15:03 'Asr

17:34 Maghreb
18:51 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweifish Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625363, Tel. 626543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822605
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 615817, 821564

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be warm with temperatures above annual average. Wind will be

southwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, wind will be northerly moderate and seas calm.
Amman Min./max. temp. 10 / 24
Aqaba 13 / 31
Desserts 8 / 28
Jordan Valley 12 / 27

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 22, Aqaba 30. Humidity readings: Amman 16 per cent, Aqaba 13 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Abdul Rabbim Ahmed 744685
Dr. Abdul Qader Al Lala 896046
Dr. Walid Al Masri 675485
Dr. Issam Hawandeh 642330
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nabrouk pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shmeisani pharmacy 637660
IRBD:
Dr. Radwan Al Sa'ad (—)
Al Sharaa pharmacy (985238)
ZARQA:
Dr. Samir Al Lawzi (—)
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 622049/3
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 814302
Traffic Police 656390/91
Public Security Department 661714
Hotel Complaints 656800/683755
Price Complaints 661776
Water and Sewerage 775121
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 12
Overseas Calls 1

Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 816515
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-52000

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 642381/6
Aklleh Maternity, J. Amn. 642412/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642382
Malheur, J. Amman 656140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 648645
Al-Mushar Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/71
Al-Abdi, Abdali 664166/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 771013/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marka 891617/15
Queen Alia Hospital 662240/50
Amal Hospital 674135
ZARQA:

Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarga Maternity Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IRBD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in ffs per kg.
Apple 500 / 450
Banana

National News

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

HINDAWI MEETS JSPRA BOARD MEMBERS: Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Dhauqan Hindawi Monday received the chairman and members of the board of the Jordan Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA). During the meeting, talks focused on the JSPRA activities and the Ministry of Education's role in introducing traffic awareness. (Petra)

LAWZI RECEIVES U.K. CABLE: British Member of the House of Commons, Richard Page has cabled Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi expressing gratitude to the Jordanian government for the hospitality accorded to him and his accompanying delegation during their recent visit to Jordan. In his cable, he expressed appreciation for the useful meetings he held in Amman noting that all the delegation members were shocked at the situation in the occupied territories. (Petra)

SWEDISH TEAM ENDS VISIT: A Swedish investment delegation wound up a visit to Jordan and left the country after conducting contacts with officials and businessmen. The delegation's talks here centred on launching joint ventures involving Swedish firms and Jordanian businesses in areas included within the five-year national development plan. The question of providing capital for industries which had encountered difficulties in the past was among the different topics discussed. (Petra)

AECU CHIEF RETURNS: Secretary General of the Arab Economic Council Unity Monday returned to Amman after participating in the 46th session of the Arab Social and Economic Council which concluded its two-day sessions in Morocco on Feb. 24. (Petra)

SECURITY COOPERATION: Public Security Department Director Abdul Hadi Al Majali Monday discussed security cooperation with Qatari Ambassador in Amman Mubarak Naser Al Kuwari. (Petra)

TARAWNEH RECEIVES QATARI ENVOY: Civil Defence Department Director Lieutenant General Khaled Al Tarawneh Monday discussed with Qatari Ambassador in Amman Mubarak Naser Al Kuwari cooperation in the field of Civil Defence. (Petra)

SYMPOSIUM ON SOCIAL SECURITY: The director general of the Social Security Corporation (SSC) will participate in an international symposium on Social Security due to be held in Seoul on March 18. (Petra)

TAIWANESE TEAM VISIT JUST: Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) President Dr. Kamel Ajlouni Monday received a Taiwanese investment delegation. He explained the university's development and role in attaining Jordan's aspirations. Later, the delegation toured the university and was briefed with its different sections and laboratories. (Petra)

ARAB AMERICAN CHAMBER MEETING: The President of the Amman Chamber of Industry and President of the Union of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce will represent Jordan in the two-day meetings of the Arab-American Chamber which begin in Washington Wednesday. The participants will discuss means of developing trade relations between the Arab countries and the United States as well as increasing the size of Arab exports to U.S. (Petra)

PLANTING ANIMAL FEED: A three-day workshop on planting animal-feed in dry lands was opened Monday at the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology. This workshop is designed to increase the area of land planted with animal feed so as to attain self-sufficiency in breeding cows and cattle in Jordan. This workshop is organised by the Jordanian-Australian Project for Developing Agriculture in Dry Lands. (Petra)

Tabbaa, Taiwanese team discuss investment

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting Taiwanese investment delegation met here Monday with Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa and was briefed on the investment climate in the Kingdom. Tabbaa explained the investment incentives and the Jordanian law for encouraging investments, which provides guarantees for investors and freedom of moving capital in and out of the country in addition to other privileges.

The delegation members, who represent private companies in Taiwan, said they were willing to expand their existing projects in Jordan, especially those in the areas of construction, and added that they were willing to set up new industries that can be of benefit to the markets of Jordan and other members of the Arab Cooperation Council countries — Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen.

NHF begins 4-day focus group training workshop

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Health Project of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Monday opened a four-day meeting here entitled "focus group training workshop" designed to develop the skills of personnel involved in organising, conducting and reporting on focus groups for assessing the attitudes of audiences.

The participants gathered at the National Music Conservatory represent the NHF, the Health Ministry, the Save the Children Federation, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and the Catholic Relief Service.

The workshop is being organised in cooperation with the Washington based Ronco Consulting Corporation and the Ministry of Health.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- An art exhibition by Paul and Emanuel Guiragoussian at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.
- The Arab Contemporary Artists exhibition at Al Wasiti Gallery.
- An exhibition of paintings by French artist Francoise Petrovitch at the French Cultural Centre.
- An archaeological mobile exhibition on Tel Abu Hamid agricultural settlement at the University of Jordan.
- The Polish contemporary art exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- An exhibition entitled "The Icebreaker" which includes showing a film about the activities of a Swedish icebreaker and the environment surrounding it, a photo exhibition and a radio programme at the French Cultural Centre.
- An exhibition on geology and development plans in Jordan which includes samples of rocks, minerals, fossils and raw material manufactured in Jordan, at the Yarmouk University.
- An art exhibition by Mohammad Bolis and Munira Al Tunisiyya at Al Qadisiyya College.
- The Iraqi children's exhibition which includes 100 paintings by Iraqi children and an exhibition of children's books at Zarqa Comprehensive School for Boys.
- The Yemeni national heritage exhibition which includes Yemeni costumes, handicrafts, photos and books at the Yarmouk University.

SYMPOSIUM

- A symposium on environmental pollution at the Faculty of Engineering Auditorium, the University of Jordan — 9:00 a.m. — 1 p.m.

FILMS

- Two films shown as part of the American Centre's programme "Filmmakers": The first is on Stan Brakhage and the other on Robert Fulton — 7:00 p.m.

Princess Basma chairs scout association meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday chaired a general assembly meeting of the Jordanian Boy Scout and Girl guide association to discuss a number of issues of concern to the society and general activities.

"The scout movement in Jordan emanates from this country's great aspirations to achieve development in the Arab World, and this lies behind the concern to develop this movement and its activities at all levels," Princess Basma noted.

But the development process, she added, requires pooling of efforts of those able bodies and organisations concerned about the youth and scout movements.

At the outset of the meeting, Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat thanked the Princess for accepting to be the society's president and wished the scout movement all success.

Later Monday, the general assembly meeting elected two scouts and two girl guides to serve as members of the society's executive committee.

Jabr and Dali discuss cooperation in agriculture

AMMAN (Petra) — Visiting South Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Al Dali met in Amman Monday with Minister of Agriculture Yousef Hamdan Al Jabr to discuss cooperation in agricultural affairs.

Jabr briefed the Yemeni minister on the ministry's programmes and activities, especially in plastic culture, drip irrigation systems and afforestation projects.

Dali said that his country was interested in launching cooperation with Jordan in agricultural fields and benefiting from the Kingdom's expertise and experience, especially in drip irrigation and the production of vegetables and fruits.

Dali later called at the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) head offices at Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley and met with JVA Secretary General Mohammad Bani Hani who briefed him on the region's development projects and the authority's plans to develop water resources for irrigation purposes.

Dali and Bani Hani toured a number of JVA projects in the region.

Yarmouk holds seminar on combatting smoking

IRBID (Petra, J.T.) — A seminar on means of combatting smoking held at Yarmouk University Monday heard calls by participants for more meaningful action to deal with the habit and reduce danger on public health.

Health Minister Zuhair Malhas was the main speaker at the seminar, which was organised by the university in cooperation with the Jordan National Anti-Smoking Society.

"Jordan was among the first countries in the world to introduce legislation for combating smoking and the Ministry of Health had assumed a significant role in the drive to eliminate the habit of smoking in a bid to reduce diseases resulting from it," the minister said in his speech.

Smoking had been proved to have grave consequences to health and particularly harmful to the heart, the brains and lungs, the minister said.

He expressed the view that smoking is like any other addiction which should be treated on equal footing and at all levels.

The minister described smoking as a danger that is threatening many of the Third World countries more than the advanced nations which, he said, had introduced measures to reduce its dangerous effects.

According to the minister, statistics had revealed that the nearly 50 per cent of the adults in Third World countries are smokers and that there is an increasing tendency among their young to pick up the habit.

Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan addressed the meeting underlining the university's concern over the question of smoking and its support for endeavours to eliminate the habit in Jordan.

The seminar reviewed nine working papers on the smoking problem in Jordan, the dangers of smoke to public health in general and pregnant women in particular, smoking among juveniles and the effect of smoking on the heart, blood circulation, its direct cause for cancer and legislations that can stem the smoking habit.

Last year the Ministry of Health announced a ban on smoking at all cinemas, theatres, public libraries, public transport vehicles and other public places.

The ban was imposed in implementation of a 1977 law which imposes heavy penalties on violators.

Royal Jordanian last year announced a ban on smoking aboard its aircraft on short trips.

HASHISH PEDDLER JAILED: The military court has sentenced Ahmad Jwayyid Tawooz to eight years imprisonment and the payment of JD 10,000 fine for hashish trafficking. The military governor endorsed the sentence. (Petra)

SYMPOSIUM ON SOLAR WATER HEATERS: A total of 28 experts from 15 developing countries will participate in a symposium entitled "practical workshop for technicians and engineers in the field of design and manufacture of solar water heaters" due to be held at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) from Feb. 28 to March 12. The symposium is held by the RSS in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation. (Petra)

University of Jordan starts tree planting celebration

AMMAN (J.T.) — The University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture held a tree planting celebration Monday at the university premises during which a large number of trees were planted by deans, teachers and students. Also taking part in the ceremony was University President Abdul Salam Al Majali.

Altogether 150 dunums of land owned by the university are to be planted with olive and forest trees, according to a university official.

Also at the University of Jordan, an art exhibition depicting photographs of European cities was opened Monday by Vice-President Fawzi Gharabeh.

The exhibition, which displays photographs of cities in three different ages, was organised in cooperation with the European Community delegation in Amman.

The week-long exhibition is being held at the university library.

Market analysis seminar begins today

AMMAN (USIS) — The Housing Bank, in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), will sponsor a market analysis seminar in Amman on Feb. 28 through March 1. Over forty developers and representatives from Jordanian government agencies involved in the building of low cost housing have pre-registered for the course.

Additionally, participants will include professionals from training institutions that wish to offer similar course material in the future. Several participants from Morocco, Tunisia, and Portugal have been invited to attend.

The participants will learn how to determine if there is a market for housing projects — particularly those for low income families — how to ascertain market needs, and how to build for the market.

Four local case studies, two experts from private developers, and others from the Housing Corporation and the Urban Development Department will present current marketing approaches and provide a basis for discussion on how they might be improved. Dr. David Dowall will give the two-day course at the Plaza Hotel.

CORRECTION

IN its Feb. 27 edition, the Jordan Times inadvertently published that Dr. Arafat Tamimi from the Royal Scientific Society delivered a speech on the concept of a national research centre for environmental studies in Jordan. Actually, the lecture was given by a University of Jordan professor on the pollution of the Khirbat Al Samra water treatment plant. The Jordan Times regrets this error.

Seminar on development of local societies opens

Princess Basma calls for formula to integrate social development

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday called for a reassessment of Jordan's social development experiment with the aim of arriving at a new formula that would guarantee coordination and integration among projects undertaken by private development organisations and government institutions.

Speaking at a seminar entitled "the development of local society: realities and outlooks," Princess Basma, chairperson of the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF), stressed the need for greater participation in the social development process and a deepening of the sense of responsibility particularly towards children and women.

"One of the most crucial objectives of this seminar is to widen the base of participation in social development, increase the number of beneficiaries and deepen the sense of responsibility towards children and their rearing on sound educational bases," Princess Basma told participants of the seminar, organised by the QAF and the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development.

The conference, which is held at the Amman Plaza Hotel, also aims at involving women in all aspects of society, enhancing their performance and raising their standard of living.

Princess Basma noted that during the past decade, there had been an increase in the number of social development centres and private voluntary organisations involved in all aspects of development, a matter which necessitates increased coordination among these parties.

She pointed out that the "modern" concept of social development has forced planners and policy makers to take a closer look into projects undertaken by development institutions in an effort to enhance their productivity and efficiency.

For his part, seminar Director Dr. Ali Othman said policy makers in Jordan had realised the importance of unifying efforts of the private and public sectors in social development. In effect, he said, Jordan had established an administrative system that links the projects of both sectors on all levels, in the capital and in all the Kingdom's governorates.

He noted however that the persistence of the old pattern of social development — with ministries and organisations planning, programming and executing projects independent from one another — still "constitutes an obstacle in the face of this new administrative system."

Othman also pointed out that training programmes for social workers need to be formulated in way that would be more in tune with the economic changes taking place in the Jordanian society.

In a paper entitled "towards a new pattern in local community development in Jordan," and presented during the morning session, Othman noted that the public's participation in social development as well as the correct concept of programming projects were matters of crucial importance.

Othman pointed out that the "old approach" towards social development was still strong and prevalent. "Each (social development) organisation believes it can do its work in isolation from other institutions," he said. Adding that since the "reality of the situation" was not a matter that could be broken down to pieces, social development efforts should be coordinated if they are to achieve their objectives.

"Society's needs are intertwined... A work which should force us to work collectively," Othman asserted adding that collective effort should start by coordinated programming of projects, first in Amman and then to be spread all over the Kingdom.

On Tuesday, Dr. Faisal Bashabshah will discuss the future outlook of development in Jordan, while Dr. Hussein Al Khatib will present his assessment of the operating methods of development councils. Luseen Tamimian will present a paper on ways of boosting women's role in local community development.

Seminar makes proposals for developing Ajloun

AJLOUN (Petra) — A seminar on development in the Ajloun district which was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday issued a set of recommendations and proposals concerning the development of agriculture, tourism, local councils, education, social services, youth and other sectors in the northern region.

The recommendations, contained in a final statement at the conclusion of the seminar, said the participants propose the formation of special committees grouping Ministries of Agriculture, Water and Municipal Affairs and universities to help local councils in the district to assess the real problem of and find solutions to the improper use of land.

The committee would classify the different uses of land for agricultural purposes and propose the opening of agricultural roads to help farmers market their products.

It also recommended that repair work be carried out on old water cisterns and pools to collect and preserve water and to develop artesian wells to provide sufficient drinking water for the Ajloun residents.

It called on money lending organisations to provide funds to drill artesian wells and urged the Ministry of Agriculture to provide farmers with consultancy services on land investments.

The statement called for the creation of a committee to help reschedule loans due on farmers, provide technical help in land development and the most suitable strains of plants for the Ajloun district.

The recommendations included a call on the Ministry of Supply to set up cold storage facilities to help farmers preserve vegetables and fruits until they can be marketed.

The statement called for the establishment of a veterinary laboratory and a centre to provide vaccination for the livestock.

In tourism, the seminar recommended that a cable car project be implemented to link tourist attractions in Ajloun district and called on the Ministry of Planning to conduct a feasibility study on this project, which could be implemented in cooperation with the private sector.

The seminar urged the department of Antiquities to carry out restoration work on Al Rabad ancient castle, to provide it with basic services for the benefit of the visitors and to set up a rest-house adjoining the castle.

The seminar called on Noor Al Hussein Foundation and other concerned authorities to help establish a traditional weaving industry in the Ajloun district.

In the field of local councils and environment, the seminar called for the creation of a work team to distribute fuel to various local councils on equal basis, another group to supervise the reorganisation of the municipal and village districts in the Ajloun area and to provide plans for opening roads for the benefit of the local councils and their services.



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday opens a seminar on social development in Jordan at the Amman Plaza Hotel (Petra photo)

He pointed out that the public's participation in the development process can take on two forms: Preparing future generations by "implanting" in them the values of responsibility towards society in addition to participation of older, already qualified people.

"Many among the youth have a serious desire to develop their way of life and take the initiative to develop their own villages... These people should be encouraged by the older generation of leaders," he noted.

On Tuesday, Dr. Faisal Bashabshah will discuss the future outlook of development in Jordan, while Dr. Hussein Al Khatib will present his assessment of the operating methods of development councils. Luseen Tamimian will present a paper on ways of boosting women's role in local community development.

providing primary care for the district of Ajloun and to take steps designed to improve the quality of services at the local hospitals.

At the final session held in Ajloun Sunday evening, the Regent urged the participants who represent the development councils in the Ajloun district to adopt the concept of comprehensive development and to involve the public in matters related to their communities.

HEALTH PROJECTS IN ZARQA: The Zarqa Health Department will carry out a number of health projects in Zarqa in 1989 costing JD 1,683,000. The projects include building eight medical centres. (Petra)

A National Insurance Company located in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia has the following vacancies

Claims Officers

- Knowledge of general insurance practice.
- Minimum of 3 years experience in assessing, adjusting and surveying non-life claims surveying.
- Ability to review claim files and correlate same to Policy conditions.
- Ability to determine liability

89/T1

Clerk Typist

- Can type at least 45 words per minute Arabic/English using an electric typewriter. I/C word processing knowledge is preferred.
- Analytical abilities sufficient to gather and interpret data for the simple composition of letters or numbers to assure accurate transcription and filing.
- Good command of Arabic/English language and ability to translate from English to Arabic and Arabic to English if requested.

89/TM2

Accountants

- University graduates. Accounting with several years experience in Insurance Accounting.
- Familiar with Billing and Collection Systems
- Well versed in Bookkeeping Routine
- Capable of preparing Financial Statements and other relevant financial reports
- Ability to operate I/C is a considerable advantage.

89/AM3

Translators (Arabic/English & Vice Versa)

- Minimum of 5 years experience as translator in an insurance company and/or in a legal office.
- Familiar with basic legal and insurance terminologies.

89/A4

Remuneration commensurate with experience and existing remuneration plus usual benefits such as salary, housing transportation, annual paid vacations including airtickets.

The contract term is one year renewable by agreement between the parties.

If you have the necessary credentials and feel you would enjoy a challenging opportunity, please write in confidence enclosing full C.V. together with recent passport size photograph to: (please indicate reference).

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Noble mission

PRIME Minister Zaid Rifai's working visit to Baghdad Monday to exchange views with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and other senior Iraqi officials, comes within the context of continued efforts to consolidate the newly formed Arab Cooperation Council. It also comes in the wake of the agreement signed Sunday between Jordan and South Yemen to set up a joint economic cooperation committee to be chaired by the two countries' respective prime ministers. It will be noted that South Yemen has yet to join one or the other of the three main Arab unity formations. The natural step for it to take would be to join the newly formed Arab Cooperation Council in view of the fact that North Yemen is a founding member of the ACC. In any case, wherever South Yemen opts to link up, it would be a blessing and an added fortifying measure in the direction of the attainment of an overall Arab effort to unite the nation in the face of the ever-increasing challenges and competitions from other world regional centres.

In these contexts, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has notably been busy in the last few weeks to strengthen the framework of the recently established Arab grouping encompassing Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen. His relentless and determined efforts to put more "flesh" on the skeleton of the Arab Cooperation Council, has taken him, inter alia, to Syria, a few days ago, where he also met with Syrian President Hafez Assad and other senior Syrian officials. Perhaps it is an expression of high hope and an article of deep faith to aspire for the removal of all remnants of discord between Damascus and Baghdad with a view to complete the circle of unity centred on the newly created Arab Cooperation Council.

Needless to say Arab yearning for functional unity will not rest quiet until all Arab states which are still outside the orbit of the three principal Arab cooperation unions are brought in to take their natural places within their respective sub-regional united fronts. That is why we would continue to hope that Prime Minister Zaid Rifai's persistent efforts to link up the Arab Cooperation Council with some of the remaining Arab countries would be crowned soon with success.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily newspaper commented Monday on a statement by His Majesty King Hussein in an interview with the American television network CNN describing it as a clear expression of the Arab World's position. The King has made it clear that the Arab countries are oriented towards peace and can by no means be led astray or be affected by statements issued by the Israeli leaders who try to draw a wedge between the Arabs, the paper noted. The King referred to the Soviet Union's role which he said is essential in the peace process not only because it is one of the U.N. Security Council members but also a superpower with grave responsibility, the paper said. No time should be lost in seeking a settlement, the paper noted, now that everything connected to the Middle East problem is clear and there is no need for further initiatives but the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. What the King said, the paper pointed out, is a clear invitation to the United States to take meaningful steps and exert all possible efforts to arrive at a permanent and just peace.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily commented on the Soviet Union's foreign minister's tour in the Middle East which, he says, has revealed a clear disagreement in views about the region's issue between Moscow and Washington. Abdul Rahim Omar says that President Bush's statement in Tokyo that the Soviets should have only limited role in the region were meant to belittle Moscow's mediation efforts and thus reduce the chance for a settlement of such problems as the Middle East or the Gulf conflict. The writer says that the Arabs have done all they could to arrive at a lasting settlement in the Middle East and they hope that Moscow and Washington together with the United Nations Security Council member nations will work towards implementing peace resolutions in the region. What is required from Washington now is not a disagreement with Moscow but rather joint efforts with the Soviets to exert pressure on Israel to force it to accept the will of the international community and implement U.N. resolutions, the writer says. He adds that if the United States does not exert such pressure and does not want Moscow or other nations to do that, there can be no way for Israel to succumb to the will of the world community and accept peace.

Al Dustour newspaper discussed King Hussein's relentless efforts in the international arena to reach a lasting settlement in the Middle East region. The paper noted that the King's contacts with the world leaders in Tokyo and his intensive talks with the Japanese prime minister were all centred on resolving the various problems of our region. Tokyo constituted another station in the King's long endeavours to advocate the Arab World's quest for peace and to demand that the international community help force Israel to respond to the call of reason, the paper noted. It said that the King's talks with Takeshita in Tokyo focused on the need for the world community's efforts to help convene an international conference that can establish peace.

Sawt Al Shaab daily also dwelt on the King's meetings in Tokyo and said that the monarch advocated the Arab World's position and our call for the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. Takeshita's statement after the meeting has clearly reflected Japan's deep concern over the Middle East issue and its determination to help end its conflicts, the paper noted. The statement also reflected Tokyo's interest in exploiting the current East-West détente to help end regional conflicts and establish peace around the world, the paper added. It said that Japanese major economic power can and ought to play a leading role in this endeavour.

'Rushdie, you should have known better'

By S. Nomanul Haq

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — Dear Salman Rushdie: A few years ago, when I read your "Midnight's Children," I was overwhelmed. It was not the exuberance of your narrative and stylistic craft, nor the threads of your rich imagination woven with such effective intellectual control that engulfed me. Rather it was your formidable grasp of history and, through that, of the psyche of a complex culture in all its variations that formed the substratum of your tale.

And yet it is this question of your knowledge of history that I shall raise in connection with your seriously and alarmingly controversial "The Satanic Verses."

Let me say at once that I do hold you as an artist, not as a historian or a psychologist — nor as a theologian. But at the same time you do make use of what are facts of history and psychology, giving them your own distinct treatment.

No writer, you will agree,

writes in a historical vacuum. But then, a responsible artist does not, without powerful grounds, mutilate history. Nor, unless there exists a mammoth justification, does he disregard the sensibilities and sensitivities of his own milieu, especially when it forms both the subject matter and the bulk of his or her audience.

Strangely, what I am saying is something that I learned from none other than yourself. You might recall your telling criticism of Sir Richard Attenborough's celebrated film "Gandhi." You enraged Sir Richard, but in the controversy I remained your passionate supporter.

You censured the film for disregarding or minimising certain important historical facts. And you said that in a work of an artistic nature, one cannot say everything, that there has to be a choice — but that there has to be a rationale of choice. One selects not to mislead but to make the story more meaningful. Ironically, this has precisely been your lapse in "The Satanic Verses."

Most of your Western readers

are unable to gauge the acuteness of your blow to the very core of the Indian subcontinental culture. They cannot estimate the seriousness of the injury because they do not know the history of the aggrieved.

You do know it and therefore one feels that you foresaw, at least to some extent, the consequences.

There is in your book, for example, the phantasmagoria of your own namesake Salman's corruption of the revealed word by his erroneous rendering of the words of Mahmud.

Here the veil is too thin to cover the identity of Mahmud: He can be understood in no other way than as a caricature of the Muslim Prophet. You do know that Islam is consistently, acutely and uniquely sensitive to its scripture. Ordinarily, Arabic is written without short vowels, but no copy of the Koran today is vowelless: Muslims insist that it should and can be read only in one way. The Muslim view is that even incorrectly reading the Koran is a cardinal sin. The Koran is neither

read nor recited in translation for the very reason that translation might introduce alteration.

This matter is deadly serious, and to make it a subject of insensitive fantasy is equally serious.

There is a further issue that your Western reader does not sense: that your corrupt Salman is the namesake not only of you in your book but of a historical personage who was a Persian companion of the Prophet, a companion who has been accorded a particularly elevated status by the Shiites. Given the militancy of the Shiites, when you made Salman the polluter of the revelation, you knew that you were planting your hand in the cluster of bees!

Your response to the uproar has been wavering and inconsistent, and your defence has the odour of self-righteousness. You say that people who have not read your book have no right to criticise it. But do you really think that reading the book will drastically alter their opinions? Then you talk about freedom of

expression. Free speech is a tricky issue and cannot be taken too literally.

What do you think the response of black Americans would be if you were to mock Martin Luther King Jr.? Or the anger of the Jewish community if you eulogised Hitler? Or the anger of a pious Hindu if you were to present a graphic description of the slaughtering of a cow?

And to say that the Muslim world has demonstrated a total lack of dignity and tolerance is to utter a historical irrelevance. The Muslim nations have not gone through the turmoils of the Enlightenment and they have seen no scientific revolution: their sensibilities are different. Often, a peaceful demonstration is not their way, and we cannot change them overnight. The best thing is to avoid hitting their most sensitive chords. And, Rushdie, you knew that.

As for your waverings, you started out by expressing regret over the fact that you did not write even a more controversial

book. You accused the leaders of the angry demonstration in Islamabad of exploiting a religious slogan for secular and political ends. They may have done so, but what about the innocent and ignorant people who died in the violence? You expressed no sympathy for them. And now you issue a three-sentence statement that, at best, has the semblance of regret. Quite honestly, Rushdie, your heart does not beat in the statement, your expression glaringly perfunctory.

I am saddened that a bound has been placed on your head and that a great writer like you, rather than presenting himself to the public, is in hiding. You have elicited the rage of entire nations. This is a pity. But, Rushdie, you have cut them and they are bleeding. Do something quickly to heal the wound.

The writer, a Muslim, is a tutor in the history of science at Harvard University. The article is reprinted from The New York Times.

'Jewish-black relations declining in South Africa'

By Gill Tudor
Reuters

JOHANNESBURG — Relations between Jewish South Africans and their black and Muslim compatriots, once bolstered by a shared heritage of suffering, are turning sour, a new book says.

It says the major cause is Jewish support for Israel, cautious friend of South Africa in a world which treats Pretoria as a pariah because of its racial policies.

The book, "The Jews of South Africa — What Future?" by Tzipi Hoffman and Alan Fischer, draws its conclusion from a broad range of interviews with community leaders across the spectrum of South African politics.

"It can be discerned that there is a growing deterioration in relations between Jews and blacks and Jews and Muslims in South Africa," it says.

"At the end of the day, the Jewish community finds itself perched between the powers that are and the powers that might be, all of which find fault with (its) lack of commitment to solving the problems besetting this country."

South Africa's 118,000-strong Jewish community is a minority within a minority, forming less than three per cent of whites and only 0.5 per cent of the country's total population.

But as in many other countries, Jewish names feature heavily in fields such as the professions, arts and business.

Many Jews have played a prominent role in fighting Pretoria's apartheid race policies, including exiled Communist leader Joe Slovo and veteran parliamentarian Helen Suzman.

Many of the book's interviewees say the Jews' history as a persecuted people has given them a special empathy with the sufferings of South Africa's non-whites under apartheid.

"There is a belief and a feeling that a Jew is not as hatefully racist as (Dutch-descended) Afrikaners, for instance," black community leader Ntato Motlana said.

"But the Jewish support, firstly for Israel and through that, support of South Africa, has alienated a lot of blacks."

Nobel peace laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu told the authors: "Blacks are very unhappy about Israel's policy towards South Africa and that rubs off in their relationship with Jews."

He said blacks also could not understand how some Jews could join South Africa's ruling National Party.

"It is mind-boggling that Jews, with the kind of history that they have had, can actually align themselves with a party which at one point refused to have them as members," he said.

Asked whether blacks were anti-Semitic, he replied: "I do not know... There is annoyance."

He added: "I am only stating that I think I know that the relationship between the Jewish and black communities is deteriorating."

Muslim anti-apartheid activist Farid Esack described relations between Jews and South Africa's 500,000-strong Muslim community as "seething antagonism."

"There is very intense hostility towards Jews amongst Muslims," he said. "I think if one is honest about the question, then the Muslims of South Africa are... anti-Semitic."

Esack said the concept of *umma* or a single Islamic community meant ordinary Muslims felt the plight of the Palestinians very deeply, while Jews defended Israel with equally emotional fervour.

Stereotyped prejudices against Jews also played a part in the hostility, he added.

Leading coloured (mixed-race) churchman Allan Boesak accused the Jewish community of hiding complacency behind a few prominent Jewish activists who "allow others to feel they have vicariously contributed" to the anti-apartheid cause.

"(The Jews) in this country must not forget that for black people in general, the Jewish community is white. They therefore enjoy all the privileges of the white community, with all the white options that we do not have," Boesak added.

Motlana said Jewish businessmen had failed to use their economic clout to promote political change in South Africa.

But Jewish leader Frank Bradlow doubted whether his community could "pull any" more weight in the political sphere.

"It's less influential than it's thought to be," he said. "It's influential in the distributive trade. It's not influential politically. And... it's influential culturally."

Bradlow, vice-president of the South African Jewish board of deputies, said that despite — and because of — centuries of oppression, Jews were unwilling to commit themselves politically for fear of a white anti-Semitic backlash.

"The struggle in this country doesn't really appeal to Jews they would like to be out of it if they could," he said. "Many of them think they are committed, but they don't know what to do."

Party chief Milos Jakes, responsible for purging the party of half a million members after 1968, to change course now.

The leadership also is accustomed to criticism from the West over human rights abuses. While it would like better relations and trade with Western countries, it is not prepared to change its policy to secure them.

This left the West with little leverage to influence the outcome of Havel's trial or the case of two other dissidents convicted and sentenced to prison the next day.

"The only thing that would bite is if the West Germans and the Austrians stopped their contracts" for joint trade, said a Western diplomat last week.

An article published last week in the Soviet media and summarised in the party daily Rude Pravo strongly indicated the Soviets are not happy with Prague's handling of five days of protests in January.

The protests commemorated the 20th anniversary of a student who killed himself to protest the 1968 invasion. They followed a series of demonstrations that started in August, 20 years after the invasion.

Active dissenters remain a tiny minority among the 5.5 million Czechoslovaks, and several dissidents said they were surprised by the street protests. However, they see little future in continued demonstrations.

"We must look for new means to protest, otherwise they will just take all of us and grind us down with fines," said dissident Petr Pospisil, referring to new and tougher laws on public order that impose up to a year in jail or a fine equivalent to \$2,000.



Don Wright © 1988 The Miami News.

The tide of public opinion is shifting

By Maher A. Mousasher

Special to the Jordan Times

CHICAGO — In 1989, for the first time in many years, the balance in world public opinion is shifting towards the Palestinian cause.

Recent Israeli policy in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip has been switching to harsher and harsher tactics in a desperate effort to quell the intifada, and the world is taking notice.

Jewish efforts to portray Arabs as terrorists and Israelis as peace-loving and oppressed have received severe setbacks in the face of the realities of the intifada in the occupied territories. The harshness of the images coming over television of Israeli soldiers severely beating children and shooting at crowds of unarmed demonstrators presents an irrefutable picture of the reality of the situation in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

These images have been most shocking to Americans, where the influence of the pro-Israel lobby has been at its strongest. Americans have always been taught to think of Israel as their ally which could do no wrong. The average American had no real understanding of the fact that Israel kicked out and oppressed an entire people in order to establish itself. Atrocities committed by Israelis against Arabs up until the intifada have been largely out of sight of Western reporters. In addition, pressure on the Western press by influential Jews was strong enough that the occasional story about the violence with which the Israelis treated Palestinians was never published. The intifada changed all that. The scale of the human rights violations has been so large that it

could not be ignored. The Israeli military censorship of Western reporters stories also resulted in a public outcry by the journalists covering the West Bank and Gaza and a greater determination by them that the story must be told to the world.

As the story began to unfold, an interesting development started to take place. The mass of American Jews, in many ways Israel's strongest supporters, were perhaps the people most shocked by the revelations. These Jews, who had always had the most idealised view of Israel, and who thought of it in many ways as a second homeland, were so disturbed by what they saw Israeli soldiers doing that they were among the hungriest for news about what was going on. A split began to develop between these Jews, some saying that Israel should be supported no matter what, and others believing that they must speak out against the Israeli actions. While the support for Israel among American Jews is still high, the disson and internal questioning has meant that the pro-Israel public relations machine has, at least for the time being, stalled.

Even while Western nations were seeing Israeli human rights violations nightly on the news, they were also hearing a gentler message from the Arab nation. Statements by Yasser Arafat led to an opening of dialogue between the PLO and most Western nations. The Israelis had always claimed to be in favour of peace. With this latest move, their bluff has been exposed to the world, further aiding the shift in public opinion.

In the U.S., even the newspapers that are Israel's strongest defenders have started to question

its actions and support U.S. dialogue with the PLO. The New York Times, for example, while catering to the largest Jewish population in the U.S. in New York, has been publishing stories questioning Israeli actions. In just this past week, for example, its reporters have brought into serious question the use of steel and rubber bullets by Israeli soldiers on an indiscriminate basis and the demolition of Palestinian homes as being against human rights and international law. Israel's most fundamental laws, and its court treatment of Palestinians has come under scrutiny. At the present time, there is even a petition under consideration at the U.S. Trade Department concerning Israeli violations of Palestinian workers' rights.

These developments have recently been coupled with increased activity by Arab groups in the U.S. The previously mentioned trade petition was filed originally by the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the National Association of Arab Americans has been publishing newspaper advertisements comparing Arab and Israeli positions on peace, setting the record straight, and further helping counteract Israeli propaganda.

The intifada went into its second year last December, and shows no signs of slowing. In that time, it has done more to open the eyes of the West to the Palestinian cause than all the efforts of previous years combined. The tide of world public opinion is now shifting. It is shifting slowly, but with it, and with the continued exposure that Israeli human rights violations are getting in the press, come the real chances for just peace.

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Features

WFP — delivering the goods

The World Food Programme (WFP) was established in 1963 as the food aid organisation of the United Nations system. Its purpose is to provide food aid to support economic and social development projects and to meet emergency needs.

By Peter Mathsson
The Journal

AFRICA — In 1987 the World Food Programme (WFP) shipped 2.4 million tonnes of food at all time high. Every day of the year hundreds of vessels cross the oceans carrying food-aid commodities for emergencies and development activities. Most of these commodities are donated by WFP's contributors while other commodities are purchased with cash made available to the Programme. It also undertakes extensive bilateral shipments on behalf of donors.

In addition to shipping, the Programme also transports food by land in trucking convoys, by rail and sometimes by air. Shipping costs constitute WFP's largest single expense and it employs a staff of qualified shipping and logistics experts.

If you ask Andrew Toh what the road conditions are like between Kampala in Uganda and Juba in Sudan, he will tell you they are fair up to Karuma, Uganda and from there on they are an absolute nightmare. It is Andrew Toh's business to know — he coordinates WFP's over-land relief transport in Africa.

When Toh is not surveying routes for truck shipments or solving some urgent logistics

problem on the spot, he works as a senior logistics officer in WFP's Transport Insurance and Logistic Service at the Rome headquarters. In many respects this Service is the organisation's nerve centre, the final link between headquarters and its country offices. It directs shipments by sea, land and air to nearly 100 countries throughout the world.

Most of the officers have business backgrounds and seem only the job is not very different from a commercial transport venture. Yet there is one fundamental difference: the Service deals in food shipments to places most people have never heard of. On any given day of the year hundreds of contracted vessels ply the seas carrying WFP food commodities. Spending approximately \$140 million annually, WFP has a responsibility towards donors to identify the best available shipping rates. A lower transport cost often means more food can be bought, so the less spent the better.

Events

It is a normal working day at the Service. This morning's papers report growing food shortages in Sudan, an acute lack of supplementary food in Ethiopia, a slightly weaker U.S. dollar and a falling Japanese trade surplus.

All these events will in some way influence the day's work.

Peter French, a chartering officer, flicks through the morning's cables. No surprises here, the freight futures index, Biffex, is still rising, rates on the benchmark U.S. Gulf to Japan route for 50,000 tonnes of bulk grain commodities still hover around \$26 per tonne. A few cables from freight brokers listing "fixtures" and closed shipping deals, give him a good indication of the going rates. All this is not good news since it means he will have to pay premium rates for this week's shipments.

Meanwhile, Arnold Vercken, Senior Logistics Officer, is on the phone to the WFP office in Khartoum. He is told that the army still has not released all of the relief trucks it hijacked three weeks ago. Therefore, he cannot go ahead with a planned airlift from Entebbe, Uganda to Juba, Sudan. Without the trucks in place, it would be meaningless to send food into town. Lately some commercial and relief food has reached Juba, the garrison town that now hosts thousands of refugees escaping the civil strife. The food will ease some of the pressure and he decides to delay the airlift. However, he continues the negotiations with potential carriers. The costs are prohibitive — royalties and handling costs will add \$15,000 to every \$25,000 air shipment — but he will see if he can get the price down.

Next door, Didier Frisch, a shipping officer, is struggling with

a 9,130 tonne shipment of bulk wheat from Caen, France to Tunisia. A recent tender has produced an unusually poor response. Only one shipowner is interested and his vessel does not have offloading gear. Manual offloading will take at least two weeks and because of the boom in the freight market he is unwilling to commit his vessel for such a long time. Frisch is notified that the owner will only agree to take the cargo to La Goulette, the sole Tunisian port with suction facilities. With the owner's ultimatum at hand, he notifies the WFP office in Tunis and they promise to discuss the matter with Tunisian authorities.

Lia Palleschi, a colleague working in logistics, is making arrangements to load a photocopy on board a Belgian Air Force Lockheed C-130 when it arrives at Pisa, Italy for servicing. The U.N.-funded transporter is presently ferrying food into the drought-stricken Ethiopian province of Tigray. WFP has substantially expanded its trucking operation in the northern Ethiopian provinces and the office needs photocopying equipment. A complication is that the base at Asmara has been cut off from telecommunications for more than two weeks and Palleschi does not know what is happening there.

As Per Ivarsen, Chief of the Service, calls the daily senior-staff meeting to order, the sun shines through his office window. In other parts of the world, the weather is adding to Ivarsen's

workload. WFP has been forced to look for new markets to buy white maize for southern African countries. Traditional markets in Zimbabwe and Malawi have dried up, and Kenya and Tanzania have enforced an export ban. Since the food is urgently needed to feed the more than 400,000 Mozambican refugees in Malawi, WFP has been forced to buy from distant China.

Climate

However, maize does not travel well from icy northern temperatures to temperate tropical southern latitudes. Fungus often develops and the shipment must be fumigated. It was too cold to fumigate in China so the vessel will have to be diverted into another port enroute to get the job done.

"The authorities won't allow us to fumigate with the crew onboard. That means we could lose three days," explained Dirk de Wit, chief of the shipping branch. Meanwhile, the Chartering Unit concerns itself with a maize shipment from another part of the world. The Canadian fiscal year ends at the end of March and by that time 12,000 tonnes of maize must be shipped or forfeited, a fact that has not escaped shipowners. Besides, it is the worst time of year to ship anything out of Canada; with ice in the St. Lawrence Seaway, ships are unwilling to go in.

"If we pay \$100 a tonne we can get anything in there but it's more



difficult at normal rates," Peter French explained.

At \$40 a tonne he plans to load 18,600 tonnes of wheat for Ethiopia. The rate in "normal" times would be \$33, but with the present 'sellers' market, most owners are asking \$45. Peter

French found an owner who was willing to settle for less, since his vessel happened to be in Quebec for repairs. The Bermuda-registered, Greek-owned vessel, already has 2,500 tonnes of WFP commodities onboard. However, during loading in Mil-

waukee a storm damaged its rudder and tail shaft. The ship was towed to Quebec for repairs, costing the owners \$1.8 million. WFP is now certain that the original shipment, having been stowed for more than three months, is damaged.

A house of treasures in Baghdad — an oil 'think tank'

The Arab petroleum industry's think tank in Baghdad has expanded its activities and built up a treasure house of research and information material on the subject.

By Ali Al Khazraji

VIENNA — The Arab Petroleum Training Institute (APTI) in Baghdad has often been described as the Arab oil industry's "Think Tank," a description its director-general, Dr. Barrak Saeed Yehya, concurs with.

In an extensive interview with the OPEC news agency (OPECNA), Yehya spoke about the institute which was set up in 1978 by the Organisation of the Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) to conduct studies and devise and run training courses for the Arab oil industry.

The institute, reputed to be the only one of its kind in developing countries, recently inaugurated a computer aid training centre with a completely integrated network of 22 computers.

Yehya said the centre took two and half years to build. "Of the many options available to us, we chose those which we felt would be best suited to the Arab petroleum industry."

Some computers, he explained, are utilised for lectures and training courses, while others act as substitute trainers. He cited three reasons for setting up the centre: — To shorten the time required for acquiring specific technologies; — To train a sufficiently large number of Arab oil industry personnel and, finally, — To establish and maintain high-quality training standards.

"Our system is relatively new. We believe that training means orientation towards the practical rather than the academic," he added.

Ambitious programmes

Asked about APTI programmes and courses for 1989, he said the institute programmes would be "rather ambitious" as it planned to hold 28 training courses in different areas of specialisation in the Arab petroleum industry. "This will mean an increase of 25 per cent in our activities this year," he added.

APTI is also to reduce costs by 20 per cent, using modern techni-

ques in producing scientific materials and making more effective use of experts.

APTI is updating its know-how practically every six months in order to maintain what Yehya called "high quality in the house."

Explaining the institute's activities, he said that it is dealing with areas which are of fundamental importance, such as on-job training techniques in the oil industry, refinery runs and plant maintenance.

APTI is also concentrating on information, computer work as well as research and development geared towards training packages and identification of training needs. It also runs management courses and special courses for instructors and trainers.

"APTI was created to train technologists, system analysts and technology managers in the Arab oil industry," he noted. The institute has also been conducting studies on the restructuring of manpower requirements for a number of companies and industrial units in the Arab world.

On occasions, APTI has been requested to prepare studies on specific problems facing the oil industry, such as replacement of foreign experts by nationals.

APTI has also been responsible on occasions for syllabi and training programmes for Arab oil companies. It has helped computerise libraries maintained by oil ministries and companies in a number of Arab countries.

Said the director general: "APTI is not only a school to run training courses, but also a consultancy bureau and a centre of oil know-how. Yes, you may call it a think tank in the field of oil training."

In addition to its 65 permanent professional and general staff, the institute can also call — and often does so — on the services of experts working in government, universities and oil companies in member states.

On APTI's cooperation with international institutions, Yehya says it has links with the Turin Institute in Italy, the Norwegian School of Technology, the French Petroleum Institute and Slough

College in England.

During a recent visit to the OPEC secretariat in Vienna, he acquainted himself with its technical and research facilities, especially the computer and data retrieval systems. "I'm going to make a special effort to benefit from OPEC's experience, expertise and know-how," he said.

He said he was keen to extend contacts with non-Arab OPEC countries and institutes. "We will be happy to show them what we have and what we do and we would like to have mutually beneficial exchanges with them," he added.

While he is modest about the very considerable achievements of the institute, he said these could not have been possible without the enthusiastic support and backing of the host country, Iraq. "It is very important for any international and regional institution to be based in the right environment," he pointed out.

APTI gets 37 per cent of its budget from the Iraqi govern-

ment and also relies heavily on the host country's expertise in the oil industry. The director general said that he has a "carte blanche" from the Iraqi government to make use of whatever expertise or facilities are required by the institute from universities, research centres and the Ministry of Oil. The government has also donated 100,000 square metres of land to the institute to build and extend its premises.

Yehya said he was confident that the institute would continue to grow and become an advanced centre of oil training technology specially oriented towards the Arab petroleum industry. He also hoped that it could expand its services both qualitatively and quantitatively and play its proper role in preparing the Arab petroleum industry for the technologies of the future.

"APTI, if I may say so, has become a symbol of successful cooperation between Arab countries, the first of many I hope," Yehya said. — Academic File.

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Warning of inflation danger

GATT reports rising world trade

GENEVA (AP) — Rising inflation in the major industrialised countries could cut into a buoyant expansion of global merchandise trade, a report by the world's main free-trade grouping warned Tuesday.

World trade in goods grew some 8.5 per cent in volume last year, sharply up from 5.5 per cent growth in 1987, according to the report by the secretariat of the 96-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The 1988 performance marked the fourth straight year of rising trade growth and tied the decade's 1984 record for annual expansion, GATT analysts said. The United States virtually caught up with West Germany last year as the world's top exporter in dollar terms, the report said. U.S. export value rose nearly 27 per cent to \$322 billion, while West Germany recorded 10 per cent growth to \$323 billion.

Global commerce has been paced by a six-year expansion in the leading economies that quickened since mid-1987, while inflation stayed moderate and business investment burgeoned, GATT said.

But the survey called on governments to control "the recent pickup of inflation in major countries" and to keep world markets open to ensure continued growth.

The report forecast that 1989 will be another year of merchandise trade growth far above the 1988 average "if governments succeed in meeting these two policy challenges."

Other uncertainty factors cited in the survey were the continuing Third World debt problem, large trade imbalances, high unemployment in some countries and lagging economic growth in many developing nations.

World trade value rose 14 per cent to some \$2,840 billion, partly reflecting inflation and a further moderate fall in the dollar's value, the report said.

While calling for a further reduction in imbalances between world's major trading partners, it said, "the evolution of policies has been encouraging." The report noted that 1988 brought the first reduction in the U.S. merchandise trade deficit this decade.

An improved world political climate also helped international business, the report said. Developing countries last year outpaced rich nations in both import and export growth, the report said.

Mexico sees IMF meeting affecting debt talks

MEXICO CITY (R) — Progress in restructuring Mexico's \$100-billion debt will depend heavily on discussions at the IMF interim committee meeting in April, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

In a communique issued after Finance Minister Pedro Aspe's return from a tour of Canada and five European countries to discuss Mexican debt rescheduling proposals, it said the talks had been useful.

"In the various meetings it was clear that great importance is placed on the interim committee meetings," it said.

The ministry gave no indication of any specific response to Mexico's plan but said a dialogue would continue.

Third World export volume rose 9.5 per cent, compared to eight per cent for Western developed countries. Import volume soared 10 per cent in developing countries, growing only nine per cent in industrialised countries.

By contrast, the 1984 trade boom was largely triggered by high U.S. imports. In 1988, the 6.5 per cent gain in U.S. import volume was well below world

average, the survey said. Imports by centrally planned economies rebounded seven per cent last year after stagnating in 1987, and their pace of exports also quickened, GATT said.

Other points in the survey: — Growth in world farm trade, while still above the decade's average, slipped to four per cent last year from six per cent in 1987. Trade in manufactured goods and in mining products,

including petroleum, grew more quickly than in 1987, at rates of 10.5 and seven per cent respectively.

A group of 15 heavily indebted developing countries pushed their total dollar earnings from exports above a 1981 peak for the first time since the onset of the debt service crisis. Ten countries, led by Brazil, were estimated to have increased export earnings last year.

Because of Rushdie affair

Japan said seeking less Iranian oil

TOKYO (Agencies) — The government has urged Japanese oil firms to buy less from Iran as a result of the Salman Rushdie furor, industry sources said Monday.

Tokyo is worried it may come under international criticism for its large Iranian oil imports, the sources said.

"The Japanese government is very nervous," said a trader for one of the big trading houses. It is particularly concerned that a high level of Iranian imports will lead to fresh U.S. pressure for Japan to join economic sanctions against Iran, the sources said.

The United States banned Iranian oil imports in October 1987, because of Iranian attacks on shipping in the Middle East Gulf and its refusal to accept a ceasefire with Iraq.

Japan refused to join the U.S. embargo but imposed an "unoffi-

cial" ceiling of 200,000 barrels per day (b/d) for Iranian oil imports.

Tokyo relaxed the ceiling after the Iran-Iraq ceasefire last August and since then oil imports from Iran have surged to more than 300,000 b/d.

Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has already complained to oil companies and urged a cut to 250,000 b/d in the second quarter of 1989, oil sources said.

They said MITI had now indicated it wanted Iranian imports cut to a maximum of 230,000 b/d from April.

MITI has always denied the existence of any restrictions on oil imports from Iran.

"The most effective course for us is to maintain links with Iran, and I think we can do more by keeping the link with Iran," said Takashi Onda, director general

for Middle East affairs at Japan's foreign ministry.

MEES discloses production cuts by non-OPEC states

Meanwhile, an oil newsletter reported Monday that six non-members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will cut production by 180,000 barrels a day in the second quarter of 1989 to help stabilise oil prices.

The non-OPEC producers had agreed on cuts at a one-day meeting in London Feb. 21 but amounts were not disclosed.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported the six countries' barrel per day cuts as: Mexico 68,000, China 31,000, Oman 28,000, Egypt 24,000, North Yemen 20,000 and Malaysia 17,000.

"However, a question mark

'Protectionism is fool's gold'

SEOUL (R) — President Bush lectured the South Koreans on the perils of protectionism Monday, calling it "fool's gold" and saying Washington's thriving Asian ally must do more to foster free trade.

"Protectionism is fool's gold," he said. "Nothing will stop the engine of Korea's economic growth faster than new barriers to international trade."

Acknowledging that there has been some progress in opening South Korean markets, the president added:

"Let me be candid: If we are to

keep our bilateral relations growing even stronger, much more needs to be done. As one of the world's major trading partners, the Republic of Korea sets an example for other nations who are watching what you do. As an emerging economic leader, you inevitably shoulder important responsibilities to ensure the con-

tinued strength and stability of the global marketplace," Bush said.

Washington wants South Korea to remove trade barriers, revalue its currency to reflect the true strength of its economy and make a sustained commitment to protect American intellectual property rights.

Airlines complain of difficulties with Kenya

NAIROBI (R) — International airlines have complained of problems in repatriating funds from Kenya because of an apparent shortage of foreign exchange.

"Our last (successful) application, for \$60,000, was approved last September," a spokesman for Italy's Alitalia airline told Reuters.

"We have sent many applications for foreign exchange to our bankers, who deal directly with the Central Bank of Kenya, but we don't know when they will be approved," he added.

A Pan American World Airways spokesman said the problem arose from a shortage of foreign exchange, and added the airline was reviewing its operations in the East African country.

He said the foreign exchange squeeze forced the airline last year to stop selling tickets in local currency, which would have had to be converted to foreign currency for repatriation.

Other airlines admitted difficulties in remitting funds but said they were not reconsidering their operations in Kenya.

Trial of Al Sayed starts

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The fraud and insider trading trial opened Monday against Refaat Al Sayed, an Egyptian immigrant who built a business empire and became a Swedish national hero.

Al Sayed, once the richest man in Sweden when the shares of his company peaked, declared bankruptcy in 1987 after being ousted from Fermenta A.B., a biotechnical company he built virtually from scratch.

The case is the first court test in Sweden of insider trading laws. Al Sayed was accused of selling off Fermenta shares just before a negative report on the company was due to be released in 1986.

The trial at the Stockholm district court, is expected to last at least three months. Al Sayed, who was also suspected of conducting dummy transactions, misleading shareholders and defrauding creditors, faces a maximum sentence of eight years imprisonment.

Al Sayed's lawyer, Leif Silbersky, told the national news agency his client denied all charges.

"There are natural explanations for what Al Sayed did," he

said. The charismatic businessman, who was voted "Swede of the year" in 1985, was charged with eight separate counts of fraud.

Prosecutor Hans Lindberg told the court in an opening statement that Al Sayed put misleading information in several of Fermenta's annual financial reports to improve the company's profits.

Al Sayed claimed to have sold technical know-how to a Bangkok company worth 10 million kronor (\$1.6 million), but the prosecutor said the transaction never took place.

Al Sayed's rise as Sweden's business wizard began with the purchase of a money-losing fermentation plant in 1981 and coincided with Sweden's emergence from a recession to an economic boom. The shrewd yet modest immigrant, who came here as a student in 1964, was held up as a national example.

His downfall began when it was disclosed that his claims to hold an academic doctorate was phony and he became increasingly entangled in lies.

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, Feb. 27, 1989 Central Bank official rates				
	Buy	Sell		
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	425.7 430.5
Pound Sterling	941.7	952.6	Dutch guilder	262.2 264.8
Deutschemark	296.0	299.0	Swedish crown	85.9 86.7
Swiss franc	346.3	349.9	Italian lire (for 100)	40.1 40.5
French franc	86.8	87.7	Belgian franc (for 10)	141.1 142.5

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.7510/20	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.2010/20	Canadian dollar	
	1.8143/50	Deutschemark	
	2.0480/90	Dutch guilders	
	1.5500/10	Swiss francs	
	38.06/09	Belgian francs	
	6.1830/80	French francs	
	1339/1340	Italian lire	
	126.18/28	Japanese yen	
	6.2610/60	Swedish crowns	
	6.6575/6625	Norwegian crowns	
	7.0725/75	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	391.00/391.50	U.S. dollars	

E. Germany reluctant to let economy change

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's ageing leadership seems unwilling to ease its grip on the economy despite a surge of radical reforms in other communist states.

The country may have communism's strongest economy, but economic experts still say it is shackled by outdated industries, an insistence on spending one-fifth of its budget on subsidies and a continued reluctance to borrow.

"The priorities for 1971 are no longer valid in 1989 — that's it in a nutshell," said one diplomat based here.

Discussion about economic strategy, little changed since Erich Honecker took power in 1971, is now out in the open but it does not match that heard from more reform-minded allies such as Hungary and the Soviet Union.

East Germany is feeling the pinch as international competition grows and its own outdated policies falter. Many people point to shortages and stagnation.

"They are treading water," one Western diplomat said of the centrally-planned East German economy. "There is no danger they will sink yet but everything is getting pretty waterlogged."

More and more East Germans are demanding reform or exit papers, fanning rise to a sullen mood that was prompted the media to defend present policies and polish the veteran Honecker's image as a paternal, sage-like leader.

He insisted recently: "If one finds that one has embarked on a course that is right, then one should continue along it."

East Germany fares relatively well with its huge state combines that have some autonomy in the tightly controlled system and its sprinkling of tiny private firms.

Price rises for basics are as yet unknown, inflation is hidden but not drastic. Rather than unemployment there is a labour shortage that has led to foreign workers being engaged.

But beneath the surface the economy is barely growing, foreign trade is static and many plan targets are being missed. Small private shops are welcomed but high taxes discourage many would-be entrepreneurs.

For East Germans, with an average monthly wage of 1,100 marks (\$398), the picture is one of scarce but shoddy and expensive consumer goods. This is only coupled with rent, food and utility prices the same as they were 30 years ago.

Sports

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Sampdoria trained on leaders

ROME (AP) — Sampdoria of Genoa is far from ready to abandon the race for this year's Italian soccer championship. Five points behind league-leading Internazionale of Milan and three points behind second place Napoli, Sampdoria continues to pile up points, waiting for one of the frontrunners to stumble. With Sunday's 2-0 win at Como, Sampdoria has now picked up 12 points in its last seven contests. The team is also undefeated in its last 11 matches. But despite this pace, Sampdoria has failed to gain ground. Inter, which crushed Pisa 3-0 Sunday, has matched Sampdoria point for point over the past seven Sundays. And Napoli, which thrashed Lecce 4-0, has gained a point on Sampdoria over the same period.

Chacon upsets Carl Lewis

OVIEDO, Spain (AP) — Cuban sprinter Richardo Chacon upset Olympic 100-metre gold medalist Carl Lewis Sunday to win the 60-metre dash in the Oviedo indoor track and field meet. The American placed second behind Chacon, who won in 6.57 seconds and set a Cuban record. Lewis' time was 6.64. Third was Dennis Mitchell of the United States in 6.69, followed by Valentin Rocardio Cliveti of Spain in 6.78 and Joel Isasi of Cuba in 6.88. It was Lewis' second defeat by a Cuban in Spain. In an indoor meet in San Sebastian Feb. 10, Andres Simon won the 60-metre dash in 6.58, with American Mark Witherspoon placing second in 6.59 and Lewis finishing third in 6.60. Simon did not run in Oviedo.

Third division Bristol's cup bid ended

BRISTOL, England (R) — Third division Bristol City's brave bid for English League Cup glory was ended by an extra time goal from Nottingham Forest midfielder Gary Parker Sunday. The 1-0 semifinal second leg away victory made it 2-1 on aggregate and kept Forest in line for three cup final appearances this season. They are also in the final of a minor cup competition and in the last eight of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup. Forest manager Brian Clough sat poker-faced in the stand Sunday. The game signalled the start of his tough time, imposed earlier this month for throwing punches at fans who invaded the Forest pitch.

Cowboys' coach braves dismissal

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Tom Landry said Sunday that he isn't upset over being replaced by new Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, but said he is leaving the Dallas organization because "it wouldn't be fair to keep me around hanging over everybody's shoulder." Landry, told the AP, "people will forget me pretty quick." Landry, who flew back into Dallas Sunday after two days at his second home in Austin, Texas, said he knew his career was finished when Jones was announced as the new owner.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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DOWN THE PRIMROSE PATH

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ J 10 7 2
♥ 8 5 3
♦ Q 10 9
♣ K Q 2

EAST
♠ Q 8 4 3
♥ 9 6 5
♦ K 10
♣ J 8 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A K
♥ A Q J 9 2
♦ K 7
♣ 10 6 4 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♣.

There are times when, left to his own devices, declarer will have no chance to go wrong. In such cases, the Holy Grail for the defenders is to present him with a losing option.

Note South's two-club rebid. Despite the anemic quality of his suit and the fact that he had enough overall strength for a jump bid in hearts, he lacked a sixth heart, so this was a temporary bid. When he received a heart preference, he rashly went directly to game—a try of three hearts would have been more prudent.

West led a diamond to East's ace as declarer unblocked the king. The spade shift was taken in the closed hand. Declarer cashed his remaining high spade and took the virtually marked finesse of the ten of diamonds. After discarding a club on the diamond queen, he finessed the jack of hearts unsuccessfully.

Prospects for the defense were gloomy. Obviously, East could not have much more in the way of high cards, and the ace of clubs was poorly placed. But West decided that there was a fair hope if his partner held the jack of clubs. He shifted to the seven of that suit.

Suddenly, declarer had an alternative play in clubs—he could play West for either the jack or the ace. He elected to play him for the jack and called for a low club from dummy. East raked in an unexpected trick, and his club return allowed West to score the ace for the setting trick.

Declarer should not have gone wrong. If West did indeed have the jack twice guarded, he could have defeated the contract by not playing a club at all. Rather than presume that West was doing something silly, declarer should have credited him with trying to do something clever. Therefore, he should have adopted the same line available to him after the heart finesse failed by playing West for the ace of clubs.

LYON, France (AP) — Second-seeded John McEnroe, showing flashes of the brilliance that once made him the world's best tennis player, downed top-seeded Jakob Hlasek 6-3, 7-6 (7-3) Sunday to win the \$291,000 Lyon Grand Prix tennis tournament.

It was the 73rd career Grand Prix title for McEnroe, who was ranked no. 1 in the world from 1981-1984. Only Jimmy Connors with 107, and Ivan Lendl with 74, are ahead of him.

"I feel I am getting closer and closer," McEnroe said of his form that helped him win three Wimbledon titles and four U.S. Open titles. "My game is getting stronger and I am very optimistic about this year."

McEnroe has climbed to no. 8 in the computer rankings, after falling to the mid-20s. Hlasek is ranked ninth.

"It was a big match for me and it could put me up another level," McEnroe said. "To play a guy in the top 10 could put me in a better position in our big tournaments."

"The big advantage I have is that I have been there before. I know what it feels like and I know what you have to do in order to get there."

McEnroe and Hlasek then became partners in the doubles final but lost against Erik Jelen of West Germany and Michael Mortensen of Denmark. Jelen and Mortensen won 6-2, 3-6, 6-2.

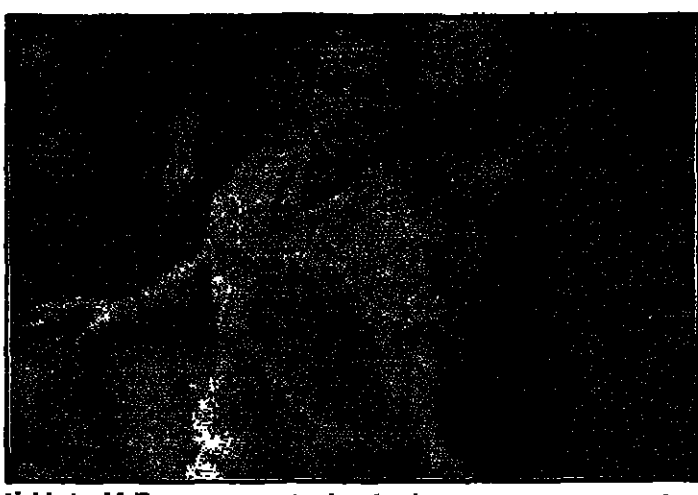
"It was difficult in the doubles," McEnroe said. "We both put a lot in the singles and our energy level was low."

After winning the first set of the singles match 6-3, McEnroe held off three set points in the second set, saving two of them on a brilliant service return and a defensive job in the ninth game.

He faced set point again in the 10th game, but came to the net and forced Hlasek to hit a backhand long.

He had a couple of set points at 5-3 and another at 5-4. I tried to stay positive and keep hitting my shots," McEnroe said.

McEnroe, who turned 30 years old last week, battled back from a 5-2 deficit in the second set to lead 6-5 and serve for the match. Hlasek then took advantage of



Ugh! As McEnroe returns to the circuit, winning his first major tournament yesterday, that well known grunt should begin to reverberate once more round the tennis grounds of the world.

McEnroe takes first major comeback title

two unforced errors by McEnroe to force a tiebreak.

"To come back to 6-5 and lose my serve was incredible," McEnroe said. "But I felt good that I was able to keep it together in the tiebreak."

In the tiebreak, McEnroe jumped to a 4-1 lead and held on with volley winners and good service returns before Hlasek ended the match when he couldn't handle a sharp serve to his backhand.

McEnroe's previous tournament victory was in Detroit last year, and the Lyon triumph was just his third title since September 1987.

Hlasek beat McEnroe in the quarterfinals of the Paris indoor tournament last November, the only time Hlasek has won in five matches against McEnroe.

McEnroe won \$52,200 for the singles title. Hlasek earned \$26,100 as runner-up. They added \$7,830 as the losers in the doubles final with Jelen-Mortensen pocketing \$15,600.

McEnroe now plays in the world championship tennis finals in Dallas starting Tuesday. His first-round opponent is Andre Agassi, ranked no. 3 in the world.

Becker again

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Second-seeded Boris Becker won his second Grand Prix title in as many weeks, wearing down no. 3 seed and two-time defending champion Tim Mayotte 7-6 (7-4), 6-1, 6-3 Sunday in the \$602,500 U.S. Pro indoor tennis championships.

Becker won the 2-hour 28-minute match and the \$123,800 top prize by winning five straight games from 1-3 in the final set, just a week after taking the Stella Artois indoor in Milan, Italy.

The players battled evenly to 6-6 in the first set, matching service power with excellent volleying. Mayotte escaped a break point in the second game when the only time Hlasek has won in five matches against McEnroe.

Mayotte took a 2-0 lead in the tie-breaker, but Becker won four straight points before Mayotte scored an acutely angled volley placement to make it 4-3. Becker then served an ace, and his next serve was returned by Mayotte's backhand into the net to put Becker at set point.

Svan makes third ski gold

LAHTI, Finland (AP) — Gunde Svan became the only triple champion in the World Nordic ski championships by winning the final 50-kilometre freestyle cross-country race Sunday ahead of fellow Swede Torgny Mogren.

Svan, who led Sweden to a medal sweep in the 15k free Monday and skied one classic-style lap on the winning Swedish relay quartet four days later, covered the gruelling race in 2 hours, 15 minutes, 34.9 seconds.

Mogren, who also finished runner-up in the 15k free, was 44.3 seconds behind after trailing in eighth place early in the race.

As he did in the Olympics last year, Svan simply overpowered his rivals, leading the traditional blue-ribbon event from start to finish.

But the world's strongest and best-trained skier almost came up lame in the final five kilometres. "I hit the wall there," he said. "Maybe my pace was too fast in the early going."

"I had to ski real slowly towards the end to have strength left for the final uphill stretches near the ski stadium. I've never been so tired before in a race that I've won."

Svan's 10th gold in a major championship — the world and

Olympics — surpassed the previous record held by compatriot Sixten Jernberg.

"It feels great to have won more gold than he did," said Svan. "And I think I have a chance to win a few more."

At 27, Svan now has won 13 medals in the worlds and the Olympics and most experts he will become the winningest cross-country skier in history.

Svan raced four times here, placing sixth in the 15k classic-style event. He skipped the 30k, also held in the kick and glide style, because of the flu.

Svan's win gave him 170 points in the season-long World Cup standings. Norway's Pal Gunnar Mikkelsen, who was 20th and out of the point standings, is second with 126 points.

Aleksei Prokhorov of the Soviet Union came in third in the 50k. 53.9 seconds off Svan's pace. Fourth went to Lars Haland, another Swede, 1:20.8 behind. The race was held in heavy track

conditions and 14 skiers withdrew, including Norwegian ace Vegard Ulvmo.

Earlier Sunday, Jens Weissflog of East Germany was declared the winner of the 70-metre ski jump as fog and wind wiped out the second round.

Weissflog soared 89 metres for 114.3 points in Saturday's opening round. He was runner-up in the 90-metre competition.

It was the only gold for East Germany.

Ari-Pekka Nikkila, the stand-out when Finland took the team competition, was second at 110.5 points (87.5 metres). Third-placed Heinz Kuttin of Austria also hit 87.5 metres, but collected 108.5 points by the judges.

Matti Nykanen, the Olympic triple champion, was fourth. He ended up with two medals, a bronze in the 90-metre contest and a team gold.

Jari Puikkonen, the big hill winner from Lahti, was a distant 13th in the 70-metre competition.

Finland topped the final medal standings with 6 gold, 5 silver and 4 bronze, an all-time record. Norway held the previous record of 14 medals from the 1982 worlds at Oslo. But two additional events were contested in these championships.

NBA Roundup

NEW YORK (AP) — Jimmy Rodgers sees some of the 1988-89 Boston Celtics in the 1988-89 New York Knicks.

"There's a cockiness and confidence that goes with winning, and that attitude snowballs," the Celtics coach said after the Knicks beat Boston 122-110 Sunday for their 21st consecutive home victory.

Rodgers was an assistant on the 1985-86 Boston team that went 40-1 at home, finished the season with a 31-game home winning streak and went on to win an NBA-record 38 straight at Boston Garden.

The Knicks erased the Madison

Square Garden record of 20 straight wins. The mark was set in 1968-69 and matched in 1972-73, the last year the team won an NBA championship.

"Any team that wins consistently at home the way the Knicks have is going to have that attitude that they won't lose at home," Rodgers said. "The Celtics were the same way in 1986."

Mark Jackson had 28 points and 11 assists and Patrick Ewing finished with 26 points, 13 rebounds and seven blocked shots for the Knicks, now 24-1 at home.

Lakers 134, Suns 122
Byron Scott scored 20 points

and Magic Johnson added 25 points and 19 assists as the Lakers extended their Pacific Division lead to 2½ games over Phoenix.

Kevin Johnson scored 30 points and added 21 assists to race the Suns.

Nuggets 122, 76ers 115

Denver won its ninth straight home game, getting 31 points from Alex English and 22 from Bill Hamill, 19 more than his average.

The Nuggets broke open a close game with a 14-5 run to open the fourth quarter, with Hamill scoring six points as they extended a two-point lead to 82-71.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1989

YOUR HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Intellect and talent rule the day. Reason may not be part of the scene and there is a tendency toward excess. Emotional states can arise over petty issues.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Rekindle interest in a relationship that has fallen by the wayside. Take care of an important task that may have been forgotten.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may feel dislocated at a social gathering. Make another move toward a relationship that you activate. Find practical solutions.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Rethink your position regarding a friend with whom you recently argued. Be realistic as you struggle to reconcile.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A co-worker may have disruptive moods that tend to lower efficiency. Steer clear of those whose views are different or inappropriate.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Take a step toward self-improvement and extending educational goals. Let others set the pace for evening social activities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) It will be easy to qualify for a position if you maintain an impressive record. A secret admirer is sitting in the wings waiting for you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Your instincts could be quite accurate in money matters and purchases. Guard against break-downs to raise maintenance standards.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be skilled at what you do and be alert to take advantage of opportunities. There is no substitute for concrete action.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Encourage family members to share in household work. A vicious circle at the current social hangout should be avoided.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Take advantage of a boost in your energy level. Gather information needed. Establish new self-improvement projects.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Guard your peace of mind by counseling family members that are restless and disruptive. Love can lift your spirits tonight.

If Your Child Is Born Today He or she will be dedicated to humanity with a variety of talents. Your child's winning ways will leave an impression on others. Your progeny may be moody, with moments when privacy is needed. Aptitude for dancing and music can be developed easily.

THE Daily Crossword by Craig Schultz

ACROSS

1 Suppress
6 Say further
9 Go away!
13 Improper
14 Actor Richard
16 Net King —
17 Turf town
18 "Do as I say, not as I do"
19 Midwest gulf
20 Kipper
21 Gossamer
24 Crowbar
25 Singer Turner
26 Like a lot
28 Old musical instrument
31 Part of a dance
34 Clumsy one
35 Noah's son
37 Get lost!
39 Rich in vegetation
40 Happy — lark
41 Vagabond
42 Invited
44 Thrashed
45 Saudi Arabian
47 "Haw"
48 Glitch
50 "Waise"
52 —shanter
54 Constellation
58 Start of quote
59 11 Babes
62 —do-well
63 Collage yells
64 Raise objections
66 Concern
67 Proofreader's mark
68 Notched
69 Geistic
70 poetica
71 Endure

DOWN

1 What
2 Make null
3 Furniture designer
4 Belt or bonnet
5 Winter need
6 Quick-witted
7 End of quote
8 Dull
9 Hold in contempt
10 Find by chance
11 Having wings
12 Some bills
15 See — eyes (concur)
22 Sta.
23 Troubles
24 Easily fixed
26 Islamic deity
27 Put out
28 Old-time soldiers
30 Mosque priest
32 Wont
33 — perfect union
40 Yoke
41 Poem of 14 lines
42 Consent
43 Corrodes
44 Formerly

57 Close by
58 Information
59 OT book
60 "L" for "Life"
61 Angers
62 Notable period

Swimming World Cup: from small acorns...

LONDON (R) — Swimming's world cup had a bumpy launch but its navigators are looking forward to a more buoyant future.

The inaugural circuit lost two of 10 projected meetings, received a lukewarm initial response from major swimming powers and lacked financial backing and proper communication.

But Canada's Trevor Tiffany, a leading World Cup light, is confident better times lie ahead, with money in the offing and growing interest among swimmers extending as far as American Olympic hero Matt Biondi.

"Next year we are charging a fee for hosting. We've proposed \$20,000, subject to approval by FINA (the International Amateur Swimming Federation)," he told Reuters at the final World Cup meeting in Barnet, North London, at the weekend.

"We already have five nations committed to paying the hosting

fee." Tiffany said the five were Canada, Britain, Sweden, Italy and West Germany.

Rainer Wittmann, former West German swimming committee chairman, said the fee would be no problem for the meeting he has run for several years in Bonn, which formed the West-German leg of the series.

"I hope to get \$30 or \$40,000 more in advertising rights with one or two hours live transmission on television," he said.

Hard currency poses a problem for East European countries, but Wittmann and Tiffany believe that difficulty can be overcome to accommodate swimming giants East Germany.

Tiffany, British-born administrator and coach, said there was also a place for the United States, Australia and France, provided they paid.

"The only problems we have are the people without hard currency, but that's a political consideration," he said. "If the

World Cup becomes a priority in the eyes of the federations, they will be here. Three years down the road it'll be a major priority."

Wittmann believes East German television, which can be watched in West Germany, could attract West German advertising to pay the hosting fee.

Swimmers can earn money in trust funds administered by national federations since FINA eased rules on amateurism, but there have been no rich pickings yet from the World Cup — just trophies for overall winners in 12 stroke and distance categories.

This, however, is set to change. "Our intention is to have \$10,000 per category. Let's say a minimum of \$100,000 prize-

money," Tiffany said.

Wittmann would prefer a circuit of just seven meetings to help ensure top swimmers all assembled for at least one, with best results from four galas counting for World Cup points.

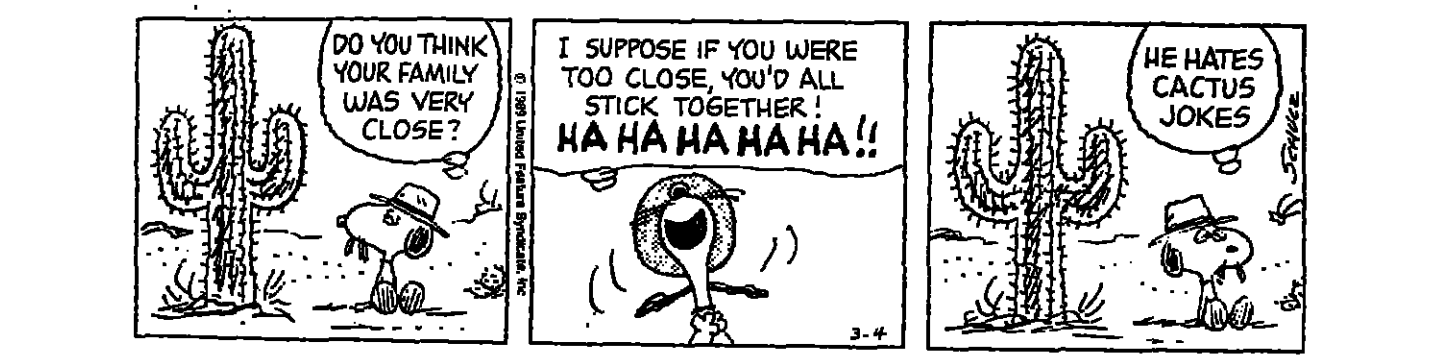
"We do not need 10 meetings. Seven would bring \$140,000 and we can spend 20,000 on publicity and distribute 10,000 per category. That could be a good start," he said.

Tiffany believes prospective rewards and the World Cup concept can attract the big names, including Biondi, who said he was forsaking swimming for water polo after collecting seven medals at the Seoul Olympics.

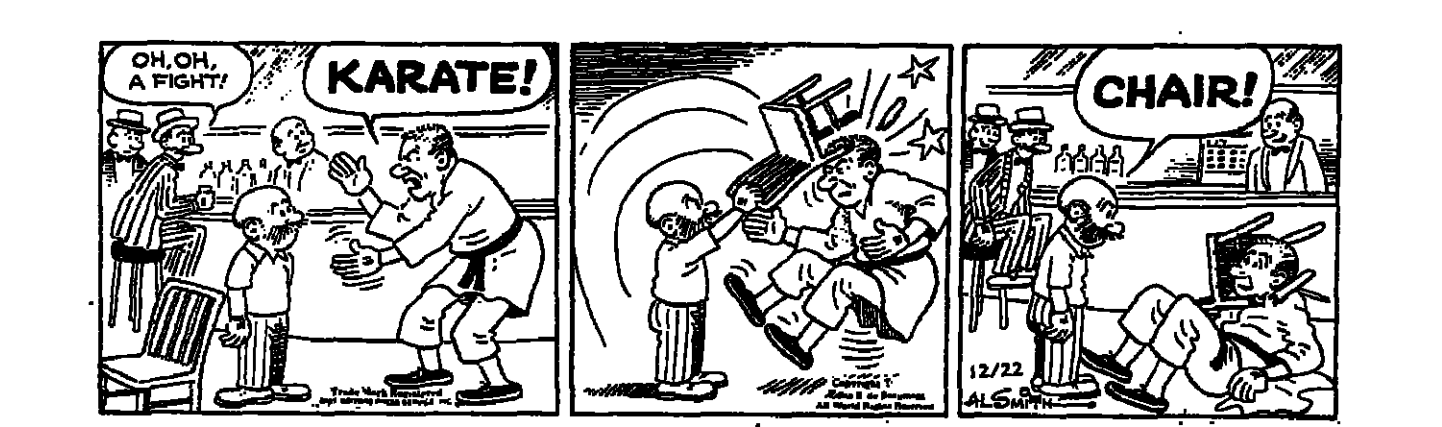
Surprise championship setback for Barcelona

BARCELONA (R) — Barcelona's first home defeat this year, 2-1 against humble Osasuna Sunday, could cost them dear in the fight for Spanish soccer league honours. It left them in second place on 34 points from 23 matches, three points adrift of arch rivals Real Madrid.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



"Stanley won't be coming into work today. He's suffering from a bad case of employee burnout."

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CALLI
WOPER
TAMENG
RUBENK

Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumbles: BALKY OXIDE FABRIC PLENTY

Answer: A businessman is judged by the company he keeps — PROFITABLE

Belgrade sends army to rebellious Kosovo

Albanian miners refuse to back down

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia (R) — Yugoslavia's State Presidency Monday sent troops to a zinc mine in Kosovo province where about 1,000 ethnic Albanian miners are leading a week old general strike.

The country's highest constitutional body announced the action as one of several emergency measures to prevent a breakdown of law and order in the province.

Eyewitnesses said armoured vehicles moved out of a barracks in the Kosovo capital Pristina towards Mitrovica, where the miners were staging a sit-in strike 1,000 metres underground at the Trepcza zinc mine.

The presidency said in a statement it had "ordered special measures for the protection of constitutional order, law and order, property, personal security."

Political analysts said the measures amounted to a partial state of emergency with no constitutional freedoms suspended beyond a ban on public gathering in force since November.

In a related development, Kosovo Communist Party chief Rahman Morina, accused by the miners of being a stooge of Serbia, Yugoslavia's biggest republic, resigned Monday.

The miners were also angry at planned changes in Serbia's constitution which give Serbia greater control over Kosovo, an autonomous Serbian province where 1.7 million Albanians outnumber the province's 200,000



Serbs.

The miners, whose protest triggered a general strike by Albanians in Kosovo, had rejected pleas and threats from Yugoslav state and party leaders to leave the mine, where they had been on strike since Monday.

Sources at the mine said the atmosphere was tense and that journalists had been barred from the premises.

Federal special forces riot

police were out in force in the predominantly Serbian town of Kosovo Polje, a suburb of the regional capital Pristina, 200 kilometres south of Belgrade.

They were guarding the railway station there and a hall where Serbs were holding an anti-Albanian meeting. Serbian miners in the Kosovo Leposavac mine, meanwhile, began a rival underground strike in protest against the Albanian unrest.

The republics of Slovenia and Croatia, which challenge what they see as Serbian attempts to dominate the Yugoslav federation, have called for the ethnic Albanian strikers' demands to be met.

But Serbia has said its constitutional changes are essential if Albanian nationalism and separatism in Kosovo are to be controlled.

Serbian activist Milorad Samardzic said the resignations of Morina and Pristina party boss Housamedin Azemi would trigger a mass exodus by Serbs from Kosovo.

"They are a capitulation to attempts to impose Albanian domination on Kosovo and a sign that the time has come for us Serbs to leave Kosovo once and for all," Samardzic said.

He called on all the Serbian members of the Kosovo central committee to resign in solidarity with Morina and Azemi.



RARE MEETING — Iranian revolutionary patriarch Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (right) meets with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze (left) Sunday in Tehran during a three-day visit the Soviet minister paid to Iran. Rarely does

Khomeini meet visiting foreign leaders and Sunday's meeting was seen as an indication of the importance Iran attaches to relations with its neighbour. The ayatollah used the meeting to bless better Soviet-Iranian ties and to sermon the Soviet leadership on Islam.

Tower pledges not to drink on job

WASHINGTON (R) — President Bush's nominee to head the U.S. Defence Department has taken an extraordinary public pledge against drinking in an effort to win Senate confirmation, possibly this week.

John Tower denied in a round of press interviews Sunday that he had ever been an alcoholic, though he said he drank too much in the 1970s. Then he made this public pledge:

"To allay any fears or doubts on this matter, I hereby swear and undertake that if confirmed, during the course of my tenure as secretary of defence I will not consume beverage alcohol of any type or form, including wine, beer or spirits of any kind."

Tower said he made the pledge "to try to remove the obstacles to my (Senate) confirmation."

As for allegations that he was a womaniser, Tower said in a television interview: "I'm a single man. I do date women... but womanising is a broad term. What is your definition of the term?"

A Senate vote on Tower is expected Wednesday or Thursday, but Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn threatened a new round of public hearings on the nomination.

Nunn said if Republicans tried to play politics with a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) report on the allegations against Tower, he would delay the Sen-

ate vote and call witnesses who allege they saw the former Texas senator drunk.

"I think if they put out the entire FBI report this nomination is over," Nunn said in a radio interview. "I would doubt very seriously if they could even get a majority of Republicans to vote for him."

Nunn's committee recommended by a vote of 11-9 last Thursday that the Senate reject Tower, primarily because of what Nunn called his "history of excessive drinking" and appearance of being too friendly with defence contractors.

Nunn went further Sunday, accusing Tower of giving defence contractors inside information as

a private consultant on weapons plans that he had learned as chief U.S. negotiator in talks on U.S.-Soviet long-range nuclear arsenal cuts.

Tower denied the allegation, saying he gave defence contractor clients only his own analysis of public information.

Some Republicans have accused Democrats, who have a 55-45 majority in the 100-seat Senate, of trying to use the Tower nomination to assert Congress's power and weaken Bush in the early days of his presidency.

Secretary of State James Baker said Sunday it would be a serious mistake for Bush to withdraw Tower's nomination before the Senate vote.

Managua makes new proposal to contras

SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras (R) — Nicaragua has proposed removing U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels from Honduras by promising land to those going home and passports to those leaving as refugees, Nicaraguan sources said Sunday.

The new plan, put to Honduran officials here and replacing one made in Venezuela early this month, moves forward a proposed deadline for disbanding the rebel army to three months from four and adds many details of how the rebels would leave Honduras.

Copies of both new and old proposals were shown to Reuters.

New elements in the second draft include an offer of Nicaraguan passports to those who decide against returning to Nicaragua. Honduras has said all the refugees must leave the country and expects the United States to help resettle them.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto is due to meet his Honduran counterpart, Carlos Lopez, at a conference of Central American and European Community foreign ministers Monday and Tuesday in this northern Honduran industrial city.

The Sandinistas are also using foreign intermediaries to seek the contras' opinions of the plan to disband their army, the sources said.

Last month Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega ruled out peace talks with the rebels, saying

they were a corpse awaiting burial.

Central American presidents agreed at a summit in El Salvador earlier this month to draw up by mid-May a scheme to dismantle the contra army in return for democratic reforms in Nicaragua and free elections there by Feb. 25, 1990.

But the presidents did not set a deadline for implementing the plan once it was worked out.

"Nicaragua's proposal for a three-month deadline is flexible," a Nicaraguan source said. He said the deadline was moved up partly to ensure that rebel candidates could take part fully in the election campaign, which opens Aug. 25.

The rebels say they will only give up their guns and go home after they are sure Nicaragua has kept promises of reform.

Managua wants its proposal to be implemented by an international commission headed by the secretaries general of the United Nations and the Organisation of American States (OAS) and backed by the U.N. refugee office and the Red Cross.

The new proposal says the contras should hand their arms to the international commission in the camps but does not say how this would be done if the rebels resisted. The rebels say 13,000 fighters are in eastern Honduras, along with 15,000 family members.

Nakasone denies allegations

TOKYO (R) — Former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Monday accused the Japan Communist Party of trying to frame him by spreading rumours that he had given and received bribes in a widening share scandal.

Nakasone told a nationally televised news conference there was no truth to rumours that he was one of the leading figures in the Recruit affair, which has already forced three cabinet ministers to resign.

He acknowledged his aides bought a large number of shares in a subsidiary of the Recruit Company and used the profits from their sale to buy gifts for political contacts.

But he said such dealings were not illegal and did not constitute bribery.

Nakasone said there was no truth in allegations he helped Recruit obtain two supercomputers from the United States, adding: "The Japan Communist Party is framing up a case."

Japan's giant telecommunications firm NTT bought four Cray supercomputers at the insistence of the 1983-87 Nakasone administration to help cut trade imbalances with the United States.

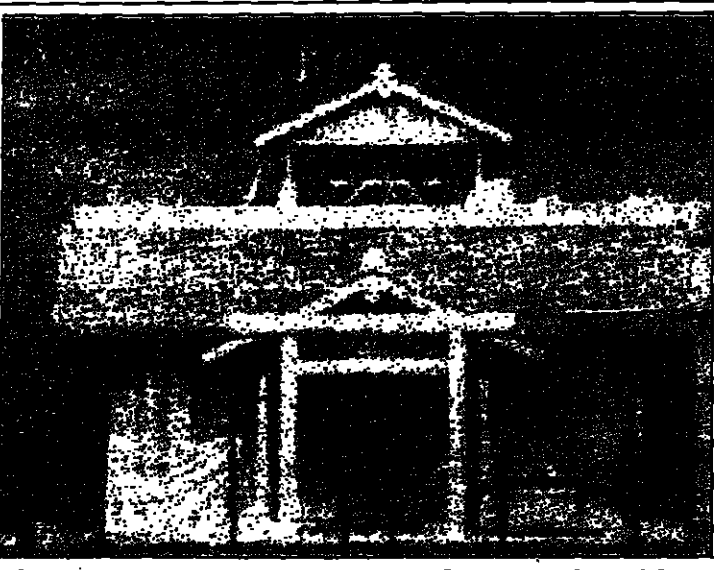
Two were immediately resold to Recruit at an undisclosed price, but NTT officials denied the deals were irregular.

Prosecutors earlier this month arrested eight people including Recruit officials and NTT executives on suspicion of bribery.

The scandal, in which Recruit distributed shares, gifts and contributions to more than 100 public figures, has badly damaged Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's government.

Many politicians were allowed to buy shares in a Recruit subsidiary before they were publicly listed, giving them the chance to make huge profits. Critics say the deals were bribery in disguise.

Nakasone aides said foreign reporters were not allowed to attend the new conference, and all questions had been vetted in advance.



Emperor Hirohito's grave in the Tama Mausoleum in a Tokyo suburb

Japan reflects on post-Hirohito era

TOKYO (AP) — The death and burial of Emperor Hirohito has sparked a discussion of Japanese values and debate over the type of national character the country will have under a new symbolic monarch.

Emperor Akihito raised some of the questions himself Friday at his father's funeral.

"Your image... will live in people's memory for a long time," said Akihito, addressing his father's spirit at the funeral. "But we are now separated in two different worlds. You are now in the world of our ancestors and I remain in the world of the living."

Akihito has pledged to seek peace in his role as a limited national symbol.

For older and younger Japanese, the beginning of the new era prompted reflection.

"Older people probably feel differently, but for us, it's really the beginning of a new era, our era," said Naomi Kishi, 30. "It's thought-provoking."

As national symbols, Akihito and Empress Michiko are seen as representative of a more modern, international Japan. The new monarch "is said to regard the British type of royalty as an ideal for his reign," wrote Kyoto University Professor Takamitsu Sawa in Saturday's Japan Times.

"Judging by what the new emperor has so far said in public, there are strong indications that he has no intention to inherit from his father the role as patriarch of the nation," Sawa said.

Hirohito's death gives Japan an opportunity to break away from a family-patterned society headed by the emperor and embrace values of "individualism, liberalism and democracy," he added. But some social critics express concern about what they see as a lack of the old-fashioned virtues of loyalty and diligence among Japan's youth, who have known only peace and affluence.

"The success of the Showa era was not without cost," says Kyoto University Professor Masataka Kosaka, using the official name of Hirohito's reign. "Today, ethics have diversified and people have become open to different views... but they have lost simple and solid faith."

Japan's "shinjinrui," or "new human species," is seen as not caring much about traditional values.

During Friday's funeral for Hirohito, when the government urged the public to quietly reflect on the emperor's passing, tens of thousands took advantage of the national holiday to leave Tokyo for the ski slopes.



The Chinese trail — from the Golden Triangle with dope

By Bruce Olson
Reuters

NEW YORK — Chinese gangs have replaced the mafia in running heroin in the huge market in New York, and the switch was dramatically demonstrated by a recent billion-dollar haul.

The old heroin trail began in the golden crescent, the poppy fields of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran, and ran through Turkey to Sicily and Marseille. It was part of the so-called "French Connection" and was run by the mafia.

The new heroin path begins in the Golden Triangle, in the jungle where Laos, Thailand and Burma meet, and runs through Bangkok and Los Angeles. Authorities call it the

China White Trail. Along it passes 90 per cent pure heroin from jungle laboratories guarded by private armies to smugglers in Hong Kong, the U.S. west coast and Canada and on to the 500,000 American addicts.

Fifty per cent of the addicts live in New York city and many belong to a new generation who use heroin as a bizarre coolant to quench the fire of the potent cocaine derivative crack.

"Most of the heroin we see in New York today ultimately leads to Chinese importers," said Robert Strang of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

When federal agents in New York city broke open 264 boxes of golf cart tyres in Queens Feb. 20, they found \$1

billion worth of China White packed between the tyres and the rims of the wheels.

Thirty-one people were charged and arrested were made in New York, Detroit, Toronto, San Francisco, Vancouver, Hong Kong and Singapore.

The seizure of 372 kilograms of heroin more than doubled the previous record, set in 1971 when 171 kilograms of French Connection heroin was confiscated in Miami.

From the 1930s until last year, the French Connection mafia network provided a majority of the heroin consumed in the United States. It still sells most of the heroin used by the 500,000 addicts in Europe, but the American trade has been flooded with southeast Asian drugs.

In 1982 southeast Asian he-

roin accounted for only two per cent of the U.S. market. By 1986, its share was up to 40 per cent and the DEA says Asian heroin distributed by Chinese gangs based primarily in Los Angeles and New York now commands 75 per cent of the market.

The reason, Strang said, was the successful prosecution of the mafia, especially those involved in the French Connection.

In the past three years four of the leaders of New York city's five mafia families have been sentenced to long prison terms. A fifth was killed by rivals.

In 1987 the head of the Sicilian mob and 16 associates were convicted in New York of running a \$1.6-billion ring using pizza parlours as fronts. An

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. company buys Marcos condo

MANILA (AP) — President Corason Aquino's government was expected to close a deal Monday for the sale of a Manhattan condominium once allegedly owned by deposed President Ferdinand Marcos, an official said. Nievesela Rosete, a member of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, said the buyer was an undisclosed U.S. corporation, and the sale price was about \$3.5 million. Profits from the sale will help finance the government's land reform programme, Rosete said. The deal for the 10-room apartment in the posh Olympic Towers was due to be closed Monday at 1 p.m. New York time (1800 GMT), Rosete said. Commission Chairman Mateo Caparas and Emmanuel Pelaez, Philippine ambassador to the United States, were to sign on behalf of the government, Rosete said.

Childbirth kills 500,000 women

MANILA (R) — About 500,000 women die in childbirth in poor countries every year, compared to 6,000 in developed nations, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said Monday. More than 99 per cent of maternal deaths occur in developing countries, where the risk of dying in childbirth is 100 to 200 times higher than in industrial nations. WHO's Manila regional headquarters said in a press statement. The recently published 1988 world health statistics annual showed a correlation between a high maternal mortality rate and high fertility, it said. At the present rate, some seven million women are expected to die in childbirth between now and the end of the century. Most Third World maternal deaths can be prevented through family planning, prenatal and other health care costing only \$2 per capita a year, WHO said.

Rescuers find Nigeria crewmen

LISBON (AP) — Rescue workers Monday found the bodies of three crewmen from a Nigerian freighter, bringing to 11 the

number of drowned from the ship that sank off Portugal during fierce storms battering Europe's western seaboard. The high winds and mountainous waves sweeping the Atlantic Ocean Sunday sank or disabled eight ships. Rescue workers said 22 were still missing and presumed dead Monday. At least 80 people were rescued. The storm, which hit a wide section of the Atlantic from Britain to Spain, produced winds up to 130 kilometres per hour and nine-metre waves.

Secord arrested for drunk driving

RESTON, Virginia (AP) — Richard V. Secord, one of four men facing criminal charges in the Iran-contra affair, was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving, police said. Secord, a retired air force major general, was arrested Sunday after officers saw his car weaving on a highway of this Washington, D.C., suburb, according to Fairfax county police communications supervisor Pete Kirby. Secord was charged with driving while intoxicated and taken to an adult detention centre, where he appeared before a magistrate, Kirby said. A court official at the magistrate's office said he did not know whether a court date had been set. Secord has a nonpublished telephone number and was not available for comment. Secord was charged in the Iran-contra affair in March 1988 along with former National Security Council aide Oliver North, former National Security Adviser John M. Poindexter and Secord's ex-business partner, Albert Hakim.

Peru opens Antarctica base

LIMA (R) — Peru opened its first base in Antarctica Sunday and officials said it would be used mainly for science. "The Peruvian flag now flies over the frozen continent," Defence Minister Enrique Lopez Albujar was quoted as saying on Lima's Radio Programas in a live report from the base. The Machu Picchu Base, named for an ancient Inca city in Peru's torrid Andean jungles, consists of three pre-fabricated buildings.

COLUMN

Shoe crisis hits Bush entourage

SEOUL (AP) — For a time Monday the most pressing question for some of the highest officials of the American government was: Which are my shoes? The top U.S. leadership had to leave its shoes at the door during lunch in the pleasant surroundings of the Ever Spring house, the fortified residence of Korean presidents. That's Korean tradition. No problem, but when lunch was over there they were, in a neat row, the nine pairs of nearly identical black slip-on shoes that clearly are favoured by the upper crust of the Bush team. Which were Secretary of State James Baker's and which were Chief of Staff John Sununu's? Culture belonged to Brent Scowcroft, the temporarily shoeless national security adviser, and which to Gaston Sigur, the assistant secretary of state? With all the dignity they could command, they stood on the porch of the Ever Spring house, long-handled shoehorns in hand, figuring out which shoes belonged to which feet. They did it, and were shod in time for the formal ceremony ending Bush's talk and lunch with President Roh Tae-Woo. Bush had no problem with his shoes. The presidential shoes were the only ones in the American party that are laced, traditional black wingtips.

Shakespeare secrets revealed

LONDON (AP) — Actor Ian McKellen climbed down into a large muddy hole in London Thursday and cried out: "to think that the voice of William Shakespeare echoed from these stones." Around him, archaeologists scraped at the foundations of the newly discovered Rose theatre on Bankside, where the bard made his London debut as an actor in 1592. "The puzzles of the centuries are being answered here — we are finding out what the Elizabethan theatre really looked like. It was all guesswork until now because when Oliver Cromwell closed the theatre in 1642 they vanished into the mud," McKellen said in an interview. Duckboards lead to the site at Rose Alley, which commemorates the name of the theatre nearly 400 years after it was demolished. Traffic crossing the Thames River thunders along Southwark bridge, where passers-by idle to stare at the diggers below. McKellen was joined by 17 other Shakespearean actors and actresses supporting efforts to preserve the remains of the Rose, summoned by Roger Rees, who played Nicholas Nickleby in the London and Broadway versions of Charles Dickens' novel. The dig has found thousands of hazelnut shells — the Elizabethans' popcorn — and clay pipes, one with a bowl as small as an acorn.

Anguillans vote on Norris mansion

THE VALLEY, Anguilla (AP) — A ruckus over the government's decision to let actor Chuck Norris build a beachfront mansion is one of the campaign issues in elections Monday for this tiny British Caribbean colony's nine-seat parliament. Opposition parties accuse the governing Anguilla National Alliance of breaking its own policy of prohibiting foreigners from owning more than half an acre of residential property on this 90-square-kilometre island, inhabited by 7,000 people. Norris, a frequent visitor, bought three-quarters of an acre of land on the island's west side in 1985 and built a holiday mansion there. Chief Minister Emile Gumbs, whose party has a six-seat majority in parliament, argues that the martial arts movie star's real estate on the island is a tourist attraction. Tourism is Anguilla's main industry.

Turkey approves new wave music

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish officials have approved "new wave" music in an attempt to cheer up Turks thought to be made too fatalistic and morose by hot-belling "Arabesk" songs. Culture and Tourism Minister Tinnaz Tinnaz told Cumhuriyet newspaper Friday that the first new wave song "without masochism and pain" would be broadcast on state television March 6. Arabesk singers have become superstars in the past five years with songs like "Allah, Allah, What Kind of Loving is This?" and "No, No, I Don't Want You to Come to My Grave." The music, which purports to be an unholy mixture of Turkish classical music, Western light rock and Arabic love songs, is popular in cafes, bars and in taxis and buses stuck in rush-hour traffic.